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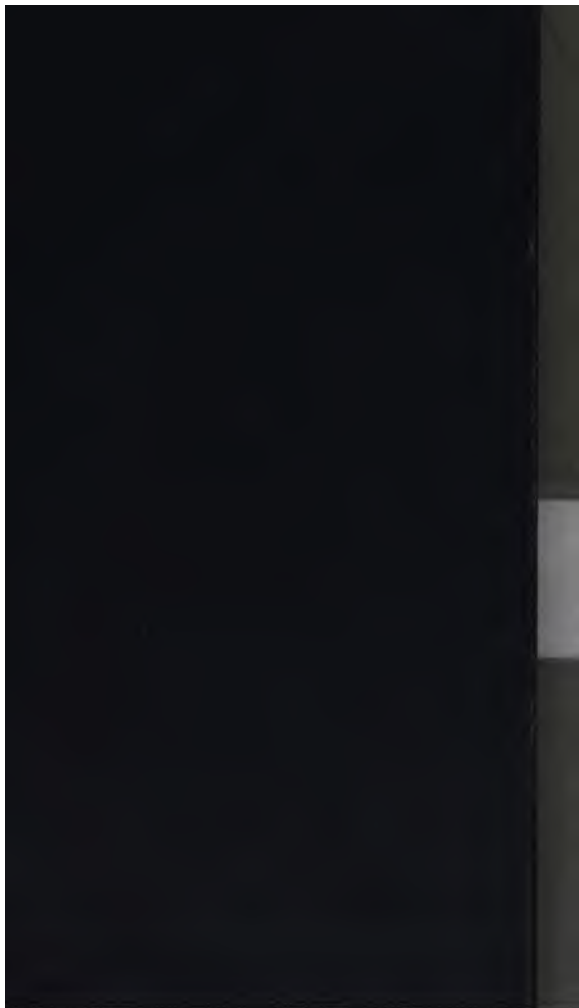
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The Gift of
Samuel A. Green, M.D.
of Boston.
(H. U. 1851.)

2 Nov, 1878









THE GOVERNESS,

OR THE

YOUNG FEMALE ACADEMY.

By Sarah Fielding.

Mary Norton (Butt)

edited BY MRS. SHERWOOD,

AUTHOR OF "LITTLE HENRY AND HIS BEARER,"

"THE LADY OF THE MANOR," &c. &c.

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Governess, &c.

THERE lived, in the beginning of the eighteenth century, in the southern parts of England, a gentlewoman whose name was Teachum. She was the widow of a clergyman, with whom she had lived nine years in that delightful harmony and concord which the marriage state frequently affords, when both parties are humble and cheerful Christians. Two little girls, whom she had endeavoured to bring up in the nurture and fear of the Lord, had greatly added to their felicity; inso-much, that Mrs. Teachum, during the life of her husband, very frequently, with great gratitude to God, professed herself to be one of the happiest of women. But it pleased the Father of mercies, during one period of her life, to exercise this excellent person with many severe trials, no doubt in order to bring her the nearer to himself.

Mr. Teachum was a truly pious man, and had great delight in contributing to the instruction of his wife; endeavouring, at the same time, as far as lay within the reach of human ability, to conduct her in that holy way in which he himself

had been taught to walk : and she, by the blessing of the Holy Spirit of God, had profited by his instructions in no ordinary degree.

The education of their children had supplied one constant subject of their conversation : and Mr. Teachum had inspired his wife with sentiments on that head so entirely consonant with his own, that when, in his last illness, his physicians pronounced it to be beyond the power of their art to relieve him, he expressed the most entire satisfaction with respect to his children ; being well assured that their pious mother would train them up in the purest principles of Christianity, without the mixture of any worldly alloy. He died confessing himself to be an unprofitable servant, though not without a firm assurance that his salvation would be perfected in Christ ; of which he gave evidence by the last words which he was distinctly heard to speak :—“ *I will go in the strength of the Lord God ; I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only.*” (Psalm lxxi. 16.)

Mrs. Teachum, though exceedingly afflicted under such a loss, yet sorrowed not as one without hope. The manner of her husband's death afforded her peculiar comfort ; and she had some consolation in immediately applying herself to the care of his beloved children. But the trials with which it pleased her heavenly Father to exercise her were not yet at an end ; nor was the work which he meant to bring about by these afflictions as yet fully accomplished : the gold was *not yet sufficiently refined from the dross.* The

sections of this his afflicted daughter; and for this purpose it was that he exercised her with repeated bitter trials: *for the Lord doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men.* (Lament. iii. 33.)

Within a twelvemonth after the death of her husband, Mrs. Teachum was deprived of both her children by the small-pox; and her small property being much diminished by the expenses necessarily attendant on their sickness and death, she was suddenly reduced to a very dependent state. But her Almighty Father left her not without assistance. A female friend, whom she had not seen for many years, who resided in a beautiful village near the town of Guilford, hearing of her afflictions, invited the suffering widow to her house: where for a considerable time she administered to her every consolation of which her situation was capable. And when, by the blessing of Almighty God, in whom are all our fresh springs, her mind was so far recovered as to fit her for some exertion, her prudent friend advised her to undertake, what she was so admirably qualified to manage, namely, a seminary for the education of a few young ladies.

Mrs. Teachum was pleased with the proposal, thinking that if she could by any means become an humble instrument of usefulness in the hands of God, she might in some degree possess again that cheerfulness of which affliction had deprived her, and might be enabled peacefully and contentedly to await that blessed change, by which through her Saviour's merits she hoped to be restored.

the church-yard, from which the
 road led to the

In pursuance of this plan, Mrs. T
 friend secured a house for her in the same
 with her own; and it may, perhaps, ple
 to read a description of the place.

This house was built at one end of
 green, where grow many stately elm trees
 from this green there branched out several
 lanes, formed by the garden-walls, and
 over-topped by high trees, belonging to t
 ral gentlemen's houses and cottages, whi
 irregularly scattered in its neighbourhood
 church, and Mrs. Teachum's house wh
 close to it, had in past times formed p
 nunnery, in which, when all the inhabi
 England were Roman Catholics, many
 from a mistaken idea of religion, had bee
 tained together in a separate society.
 Teachum's house was built of small bri
 had some appearance of antiquity a
 The windows were pointed, and may
 projected beyond the wall of the house i
 of bow. The rooms were low, but very la
 wainscoted in a curious manner. The
 was at the side of the green, by a porc
 large hall: on one side of which was a
 with glass doors, opening into an old f
 garden, where straight walks, bordered
 side by a hedge of cut yew trees, ended
 pretty arbour. Here jessamines, and r
 woodbines, in the summer-season, poured
 odour so sweet, as to fill the whole how
 refreshing fragrance; and hence nose

supplied for the parlour and school-room, being renewed every Saturday night, in order to distinguish the succeeding day as emblematic of that eternal Sabbath which we hope to enjoy in the land which is very far off—that land where the rose of Sharon ever blooms, and where the voice of the turtle is heard without ceasing. Over the hall was the room appointed for the school-room, a large and convenient apartment; at the end of which an oriel window, raised by several steps, commanded a view of the garden, together with various green and lovely fields beyond it, among which cottages and hay and corn ricks, half concealed by the trees in the hedge-rows, afforded a most agreeable prospect.

Mrs. Teachum proposed opening her school after the Midsummer holydays; but a few weeks before that time she entered upon her house, and received into it one young lady, who, being an orphan, was confided entirely by her distant relations to the charge of Mrs. Teachum. Mrs. Teachum felt peculiarly happy in being able to supply the place of a mother to this sweet young lady; and she rejoiced also in the opportunity, thus afforded her, of forming this first pupil to her wishes before the arrival of the other scholars. Moreover, she hoped, by the blessing of God, that Miss Jenny Peace, (for that was the name of the young lady,) being as much as sixteen years of age, might be rendered of great use to her in leading the younger children into a state of submission and order. For Mrs. Teachum knew well how important it is, that the el

and her own family, as necessary should the occasion require, more than good or evil as affected by such than even by the parent or governor. With this view, therefore, Mrs. Teachum, in the best of the interval allowed her, before opening of her school, to instil the best principles into the mind of Miss Jenny Peace: and in the meantime she discovered, with peculiar gratitude to God, that Miss Jenny had already received the best preparatory education from her dear mother, whose pious efforts had evidently attended with the divine blessing.

Immediately after the Midsummer holyday Mrs. Teachum received into her family more young ladies, which completed the number she had determined upon: for as she was moderate in her desires, and sought rather to do good than amass a fortune, she was resolved to take no more scholars than she could herself have an eye without the help of other teachers.

The names of these young ladies were, Miss Jenny Peace, to whom I have already introduced my readers, Miss Sukey Jennett, Miss Friendly, Miss Lucy Sly, Miss Patty Locket, Nancy Spruce, Miss Betty Ford, Miss Henny, and Miss Polly Suckling. The eldest of them was sixteen years old, and none of the rest yet attained their fifteenth year.

AN

Account of a Fray,

*Begun and carried on for the Sake of an Apple :
in which are shown the sad effects of Dis-
sension and Rage.*

THE greater part of the first week after the arrival of the little girls was spent in settling and arranging the classes. On the Saturday afternoon, however, it being a fine evening, the children were all allowed to divert themselves in the garden ; and their governess, who delighted in affording them every reasonable gratification, brought out a little basket of apples, which were intended to be divided equally among them. But Mrs. Teachum being called hastily away, one of her poor neighbours having met with an accident which required her assistance, she left the fruit in the hands of Miss Jenny Peace, with a strict charge to see that every one had her due share of it.

But, alas ! the evil of the heart, that deadly evil of which we have every one of us such large experience, turned kind Mrs. Teachum's design of giving pleasure, into an occasion of pain and sorrow. There happened to be in the basket one apple something larger than the rest ; and when this the whole company immediately gazed upon with desiring eyes, every one of them began to

Prize. Miss Jenny gave her the apple, and she went to the school, and found some reason why she was to go to all her school-fellows, and brought this reason with all the vehemence of the youngest pleaded her youth, her age; one insisted on her gender claimed a title to preference from the school; and one, in confidence of her strength, said positively she would have the apple: but, all speaking together, could not distinguish who said *this*, or *that*.

Miss Jenny begged them all to be quiet, for she could not be heard; they had their hearts on the one fine apple, looking at the rest as not worth having. For the effect of envy and an eager desire at what is not within our reach, that it prevents the enjoyment of those pleasures which are within our reach, and makes us, embittering every joy, and poisoning every sweet. And on this account, he who is the heart of man, said, *Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.* (Matt. v. 5.) Miss Jenny endeavoured to calm the turbulent spirits of her companions, and to them of the sinfulness of their conduct, and reminded them how greatly they were deceived by their greediness, instead of

she meant. She offered next to divide the disputed apple into eight parts, and to give up her own share of the contents of the basket to satisfy them : but she might as well have been silent ; for they were all too eagerly talking to attend to her proposal. At last, as a means to quiet the disturbance, she threw the apple which was the cause of their contention, with her utmost force, over a hedge into another garden, where they could not get at it.

At first they were all silent, as if struck dumb with astonishment at the loss of this one poor apple, though at the same time they had a basket full before them. But this failed to effect Miss Jenny's intention : for though the apple was the *obvious* cause of their quarrel, the *latent* cause of all lay in their own evil hearts—the present fray was no more than a breaking forth of those sinful dispositions which exist within the breast of every child of Adam.

Perhaps some of you, my young friends, who peruse this little book, may never have heard the subject of human depravity familiarly explained. In this case, should you be led to suppose that these little Misses of Mrs. Teachum's school were worse than others by nature, I will here endeavour to make plain to you the important doctrine of the depravity of man's heart. And first, I must tell you, that God made man in his own image, pure and free from sin, without one disorderly appetite or improper feeling, but holy, upright, and glorious, like his Maker, requiring no covering for his beautiful and spotless body, nor any imputed righteousness to conceal, as with a

infirmity of his soul. But Satan, as
 mentioned, tempted our first parents to
 food; as consequence of which, and
 not easy to be understood, the whole re-
 ceived so vitiating a taint, that every
 motion of his heart became sinful, at-
 tinually; insomuch, that this strong d-
 the wickedness of man, among man
 given in Scripture — *And God saw the
 ness of man was great in the earth, as
 imagination of the thoughts of his he
 evil continually.* (Gen. vi. 5.)

But although this is universally the
 upon earth, although we are born
 wrath, and heirs of hell, yet, through
 Christ, a way is opened unto us for es-
 evils. The Lord Jesus Christ, by his
 the cross, paid the price of our rede-
 procured for us the gift of the Holy S-
 which being received by faith, enter-
 heart of man, cleansing and purifying
 and renewing it in the lost image of
 are therefore, my dear children, unle-
 already received the Holy Spirit by fa-
 hearts, in no better a state than the-
 of whom you have just been readi-
 you *have* received that Spirit, you wil-
 bly of yourselves, and feel a conscie-
 when you are enabled to do better th-
 ones; it is not through your own
 through the power of the Holy Spirit

But to return to my story.—As soe-
 Misses had recovered from the am-
 which they had been thrown on seen

Peace cast the apple over the hedge, they all began again to quarrel ; and the present subject of disagreement was, which of them had most right to the apple, and which ought to have obtained it : and their anger, by degrees, reached such a pitch, that no words could vent half their rage. They fell to pulling of caps, tearing of hair, and dragging the clothes off each other's backs ; not exerting themselves indeed so much in direct *blows*, as in *scratching* and *pinching* one another.

Miss Dolly Friendly as yet was not engaged in the battle ; but on hearing her friend, Miss Nancy Spruce exclaim, that she was hurt by a sly pinch from one of the girls, she flew on this sly pincher, as she called her, like an enraged lion on its prey : and not content merely to return the injury her friend had received, she struck with such force as felled her enemy to the ground. And now the little combatants, no longer distinguishing between friend and foe, *fought*, *scratched*, and *tore*, like so many furious cats, when they dart their claws at their rivals' hearts.


In the midst of this confusion, appeared Mrs. Teachum, who had returned with the hope of seeing her little girls happily enjoying the repast she had provided for them : it was not however till after she had been standing near them some time, that either her presence or voice could recall them from the frenzy of their passion. But when, on a sudden, they all faced about, and saw her—shame and fear of punishment instantly abated their rage. Each of the little girls showed in her right hand, fast clenched, indubitable marks of her

fourth retained the fragment of a frock every one unfortunately held in her hand, her having been engaged in the battle. The ground was all strewed with rags and torn from the backs of the little inveterate combatants.

After standing for some time in astonishment at this disgraceful spectacle, Mrs. Teachum required Miss Jenny Peace, who appeared to be the only dispassionate person in the assembly, to tell her the whole truth, and to relate the particulars of all this confusion.

Miss Jenny felt herself obliged to obey the commands of her governess ; though her general principle led her to endeavour, as far as was consistent with truth, to mitigate rather than to increase Mr. Teachum's displeasure.

The guilty persons now began to exonerate themselves as fast as tears and sobs would permit. Miss Jenny said, " Indeed, Madam, it was none of my fault, for I did not begin : but Miss Sukey Jerrett set me out any cause in the world, for I did not strike her, she provoked me, she gave me a great slap in the face, and made my tooth bleed. The pain did indeed make me angry, and then, to be sure, I gave



“ I am surprised at you, Miss !” answered Miss Jennett : “ how can you say so, when you know that you struck me first, and that yours was the great blow, and mine the gentle tap ?”

Such like defences they would all have made, though it was easy to perceive that every one had been equally culpable. This however is the nature of human creatures : until the Holy Spirit of God touches the heart, it is never convinced of sin, but finds something still to allege even in behalf of the most atrocious crime. Blessed and happy, therefore, are they who early in life are brought to a knowledge of themselves.


Mrs. Teachum soon silenced the whole party ; and ordering them immediately into the house, she took the basket of apples, and followed them in. What the punishment was which Mrs. Teachum inflicted on these naughty children I did not hear ; but, no doubt, it was of such a kind as they would not easily forget.

The next day was Sunday ; and in the evening calling them all to her, she represented unto them the exceeding sinfulness of their late conduct. She endeavoured to make them comprehend, that the action of which they had been guilty was not a mere hasty offence, into which, as some people would represent it, they had been led by accidental temptation ; but that it was the natural effect of evil passions abiding in the heart, from whence, as from an evil spring, every sinful act proceeds. She then explained to them the means by which their hearts had become so corrupt and sinful. But as I have spoken on this subject ~~to~~ instead of here repeating what Mrs. Tea

them the cure of these evils. And in relating what Christ had done for them, assuring them, that whoever should have faith to this adorable Saviour, would receive his heart the Holy Spirit of God ; working by a secret and powerful influence regenerate the heart, refining and purifying it till at length it would be completely the glorious image of God.

Mrs. Teachum concluded this address to the young people by a solemn prayer ; she confessed before God the sinful state of the human heart, and implored pardon for all her sins through the blood of Christ, together with the sanctifying influences of the Holy Spirit ; which, she professed her firm conviction, her own efforts on her part would in the seasonable advance them in the attainment of all Christian graces.

After prayers, all the young ladies were permitted to ask and receive from their governess forgiveness of their grievous offence ; which she granted not without tears, for her heart was still tender towards them in Christian love. She dismissed them to their rest, which



A Dialogue

Between Miss Jenny Peace and Miss Sukey Jennett: wherein the latter is convinced of her Sin and Folly in being so quarrelsome; and by her Example all her Companions are brought to confess their Faults to each other.

THE next morning Miss Jenny Peace used her utmost endeavours to bring her school-fellows to an entire reconciliation: but their minds were not yet prepared for a cordial agreement; since each still insisted that although she was herself to blame, yet that her companions were much more so. At last, Miss Jenny finding Miss Sukey Jennett alone, the following dialogue took place between them, which, with God's blessing, brought about Miss Jenny's design of restoring peace to the school.

Miss Jenny. Now, pray, Miss Sukey, tell me what did you get by your violent contention about that foolish apple?

Miss Sukey. Indeed, Madam, I shall not answer you: I know that you only want to prove that you are wiser than I am, because you are older. Yet I don't know but some people may understand as much at thirteen years of age as others at sixteen. But because you are the oldest in the school, you always want to be tutoring and governing the rest. I don't want to have more than one governess; and if I obey my mistress, I think that is enough.

peace, and be happy : therefore, pray do
my question. Did you get any thing
quarrel ?

“No, I cannot say,” answered Miss
“that I got any thing by it ; for my mist
angry, and punished me ; besides which,
was pulled off and my clothes torn in the
neither did I value the apple ; but yet I
much spirit to be imposed on. I am su
as good a right to the apple as any of the
and I ought not to give up my right to an

Miss Jenny. You talk of *spirit*, my
friend ; but I think you do not know the
port of that word : I suppose you mean
and resolution, by what you call *spirit*.
is indeed a glorious virtue ; but that kind of
spirit which persons display in a bad cause
far from being commendable, that it leads to
kind of evil. Wicked men and evil angels
this kind of spirit ; but the followers of the
Jesus Christ are of another spirit : in the
God and of virtue they set their faces like
but when *self* only is concerned, they are
and lowly, endeavouring to follow the ex

schoolfellows and companions make me very uncomfortable. I have often," she added, "been awake in the night, fretting and vexing myself, because I felt offended with those among whom I lived, and upon whom I would have revenged myself if I durst. And last night, after our governess had been talking so kindly to us, I wished to be able to forgive my companions: but when I tried to forgive them, all their little spiteful ways came so afresh into my mind, that I found myself getting more angry than ever."

"What you say, my dear Miss Sukey, does not surprise me," answered Miss Jenny: "the reason why you could not forgive your schoolfellows when you tried to do it, was, because that you attempted it in your own strength." She then proceeded to represent to her, as Mrs. Teachum had before done, that no person can do any good thing by his own strength; pointing out to her at the same time where to seek assistance to do well, even from the Holy Spirit of God. She advised her also, without loss of time, to apply for this assistance by diligent prayer: after which she repeated these words of our excellent catechism—"My good child, know this, that thou art not able to do these things of thyself, nor to walk in the commandments of God and to serve him, without his special grace, which thou must learn at all times to call for by diligent prayer."

Miss Sukey burst into tears, and said, "Miss Jenny, any body would think, by your way of talking, that you were my mother or my governess! Do you think I don't know as well as you what my duty is? I believe that I am as capable of

finding the way to be good as you are of teaching me."

Miss Jenny answered, " My dear friend, I do not think myself fit to teach you ; but I know one who is : and I only request you to apply to that Holy One, who alone can lead you into all truth and goodness. Indeed," she added, kissing her tenderly, " I don't mean to vex you, but only to lead you into the way of happiness. How happy might our little society be, if we did but love one another ! Were we without envy, without malice, and without anger ; or were these unholy passions subdued within us by the grace of God, this place of our education would then become to us like a little paradise."

Miss Sukey now began to find that Miss Jenny was in the right, and she herself in the wrong ; but she was still too proud to own her convictions. Miss Jenny, however, was discreet enough to press her no further at that time ; but, begging her to apply for divine assistance, she embraced her and withdrew.

When Miss Sukey was alone, she remained for some time in great confusion. She was in her own room, and sitting at the foot of her little bed. No witnesses being near, she began to cry, and was in as great an agony as if some sad misfortune had befallen her. She felt herself to be miserable, and knew that she deserved to be so. At last, when she had somewhat vented her passion by tears, she broke forth into these expressions : " It is very true what Miss Jenny Peace says, that I should be happier if I could get rid of these feelings of anger and hatred. I am now

continually uneasy : I don't sleep in quiet, because I am always thinking either that I have not my share of what is given us, or that I cannot be revenged on any of my spiteful schoolfellows. And when I quarrel with them, I am scratched and bruised, or reproached. And what do I get by all this ? Why, I scratch, bruise, and reproach them in turn. If I could make my little schoolfellows my friends, I certainly might live a happier life. But what then, have I been always in the wrong all my life-time ? for I always quarrelled with and hated every one who had offended me. Is it possible that *I* should have so bad a spirit, as my governess says all people have ? *I*, who have always thought myself so wise, so sensible, and so clever ? What can I do ? How can I make myself better ? I will do as Miss Jenny Peace advises me : I will pray for help ; and perhaps my prayer will be heard."

Now Miss Sukey Jennett had been accustomed, as most children are, to repeat prayers in a formal manner, every night and morning ; but she had never till now had any idea of calling upon God with her heart : now, therefore, for the first time in her life, she put up a sincere prayer. After having bolted her door for fear of interruption, she fell down upon her knees, and confessing herself to be a very naughty proud girl, she prayed for help to amend her life ; neither did she forget in her address to God the Father, to plead the merits of God the Son, recollecting what her governess had told her, that it was through the Saviour only that we are entitled to ask any favour.

Miss Sukey, having finished her prayer, hasten-

With a better frame of mind than she had been in since the quarrel,

Miss Jenny, who had in the meantime made arguments to incline the rest of her fellows to a state of concord, now led them into the school-room, where she had assurance of seeing a general reconciliation take place soon after which Mrs. Teachum entered, and all united together in prayer; and concluded the evening devotions by singing the hundred and thirty-third Psalm.

A SCENE OF

Love and Friendship,

Quite the Reverse of the Battle: wherein is shown how different are the Effects of Christian Charity from those which are produced by Anger, Strife, and Wickedness. To which is added the Life of Miss Jenny Peace.

DURING the former part of this week, and till Thursday evening, Mrs. Teachum never permitted the young ladies to go out together to play in the garden, but sent them out one by one, saying that she was as yet afraid of trusting them together after what had happened. In the mean time, she daily gave them much religious instruction, leading them to the study of their own hearts, and labouring to forward their acquaintance with the Saviour. She caused them to read their Bibles with diligence, and accustomed them to sing hymns and psalms. She took occasion frequently to address them on religious subjects, when she carefully pointed out to them those parts of their behaviour which were not agreeable to the written word of God.

On Thursday evening, for the first time since the quarrel, she permitted them to play all together in the garden; and Miss Jenny Peace, who had so greatly assisted, with God's blessing, in restoring peace to the little community, drew them round

to the abundant source of good. It is
 thus surrounded by their indulgent smiles.
 He then speaks to the rest of the following in
 dear friends and school-fellows, you can
 the happiness it gives me, to see you
 reconciled. Comparing our present
 those of Saturday last, how great is the
 and yet there is no apparent difference
 ations. We then had our governess
 as we now have ; we then were in the
 den as we now are ; the honeysuckle
 and the jessamines then bloomed as
 sweetly as they now do ; we had the
 apples to divide, as we now have ; the
 lights of summer were spread out before
 we could not be happy : and for this
 cause our hearts were disturbed by
 Our beloved governess has since
 out to us the source of all our troubles
 directed us where to apply for the
 distresses. We were directed by her
 duty of prayer ; and our prayers, we
 been heard : for we now find ourselves
 in the same situation in which we
 time ago completely miserable ; and a

booriness and folly; when their skins reddened, and all their features were changed and distorted by the violence of those passions, which made them frightful to the beholders and miserable to themselves. But as soon as the little party could recover themselves sufficiently to speak, they all with one voice cried out, "Miss Jenny, we are sorry for our faults, and we wish to be ruled henceforward by you."

Miss Sukey Jennett added, "When we are beginning to do wrong, you shall remind us of it, and we will pray for help; and perhaps God, in time, may wholly change our hearts."

"My dear friends," said Miss Jenny, while the tears stood in her eyes, "God will assuredly hear our prayers, according to that which I have read in the Scripture—*Look at the generations of old, and see; did ever any trust in the Lord, and was confounded? or did any abide in his fear, and was forsaken? or whom did he ever despise, that called upon him?*" (Eccles. ii. 10.)

Miss Jenny then set the basket of apples before them, and invited them, in the name of Mrs. Teachum, to eat and enjoy themselves. But now so greatly were they changed, by the admission of a single spark of charity into their hearts, that each insisted upon helping her next neighbour before she would take for herself; while every one was for giving the largest and finest apple to Miss Polly Suckling, who, for her part, begged it might be presented to Miss Jenny Peace. And here we behold one beautiful effect of the Holy Spirit's influence in the advancement of true politeness, which does not consist (as worldly persons will

the caprice of fashion, but in the observance of that divine precept, *In honour preferring one another.* (Rom. xii. 10.)

Miss Jenny's joy was inexpressible in observing this happy change in her little companions; nor was the pleasure of her companions inferior to her own. They now began to taste that delight in each other's society from which their evil passions had hitherto debarred them; they now all sat looking upon one another with mutual satisfaction, their faces borrowing beauty from the calmness of their minds, while all those ugly frowns and that forbidding haughtiness which had formerly sat on their countenances could scarcely be remembered. Jessamines and honey-suckles surrounded their seats and played about their heads, of which they now would needs gather the nosegays to present to each other: enjoying amid these little interchanges of kindness all that peace of mind, which attends those in whom the Holy Spirit has inspired a wish to do well.

While Miss Jenny's heart was overflowing with joy at this agreeable change, she thus addressed the little assembly—"My dear companions, in

even one moment of my life in which I ceased to sin.

“ And this has been the case notwithstanding the peculiar privileges I have enjoyed : for before I came to this place, I had a kind mamma to correct me, and lead me to the knowledge of God ; and, since that time, I have had the instructions of good Mrs. Teachum ; from whose maternal care you may all, my dear friends, reap great advantage, if you will but call upon the Almighty to assist you. Now after I have given you the particulars of *my life*, I must beg that every one of you will, some day or other, when you have duly reflected upon it, declare all that you can remember of *your own* : for though you should not be able to relate any thing worth remembering *as an example*, yet there is nothing more likely to amend the future part of any one’s life than the recollecting and confessing his past faults, with the intent of forsaking them for ever, and pressing on to better things.”

All our little company highly approved of Miss Jenny’s proposal, and promised, in their turns, each to give a relation of her own life. And Miss Polly Suckling cried out, “ Yes, indeed, Miss Jenny, I will tell all, when it comes to my turn ; so, pray begin, for I long to hear what you did when you were no bigger than I am now.”

Miss Jenny then kissed little Polly, and said she would instantly begin. But as, in the reading of any one’s story, it affords an additional pleasure to have some acquaintance with their person, and as I delight in giving my little readers every satisfaction that is in my power, I shall endeavour, as

The Description of Miss Jenny Peace

MISS JENNY PEACE was just turned of sixteen and could be called neither tall nor short age; but her whole person was more agreeable than can be well imagined, inasmuch as her change of her countenance expressed something of affection or of humility. She had a exceeding fine complexion, with as much colour on her cheeks as is the effect of perfect health when she spoke, even though you might be at a great distance to hear what she said, she appeared in her manner so much sweetness, mildness, modesty, and good-nature, that you could not otherwise than behold her with admiration. She had none of those awkward tricks which young people acquire by carelessness, and from obstinacy, because they will not labour to overcome them. In short, Miss Jenny's mother had endeavoured to inspire her with love and fear of God, and God had blessed her endeavours; so that this sweet young person played a gentle and courteous spirit in every thing she did, being at once lovely and beloved.

Such was the agreeable person and manner of Miss Jenny Peace, who, with an air pleasing beyond my ability to express it, thus entered the relation of her life.

The Life of Miss Jenny Peace.

“MY father dying when I was but half a year old, I was left to the care of my mamma, who was the tenderest of parents, and whose memory I shall ever most gratefully honour. From the time that it pleased God to give her any children, she made it the whole study of her life to promote their welfare; for which purpose she early led them to the knowledge of our holy religion, and pointed them to that dear Saviour, in union with whom we can alone hope for happiness either in this world or the next.

“My mother had six children born alive, though she could preserve none of them beyond the first year, excepting my brother, Harry Peace, and myself. But although the deaths of these *little fair ones*, as I have often heard my dear parent term them, cost her not a few tears; yet her affliction on their account was not without its peculiar alleviations: for she still beheld her departed children, with the eye of faith, existing in a state of perfect happiness, through the imputed righteousness of that adorable Saviour, who said, *Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not.* (Mark x. 14.) After having lost, however, four dear children and a beloved husband, my mother, though resigned, and even enjoying much peace, always expressed herself as a stranger upon earth, speaking of the next world as her real home, and the place where alone she hoped to find permanent rest in the Divine Presence: and she endeavoured, by every means in her power, to inspire us with the same feelings.

“ ‘Heaven, my beloved children,’ she would often say, ‘is our eternal home, our happy resting-place : there only, in the presence of the Saviour, can I hope to see my lost husband and children assembled together ; and there, if it be not our own fault, we may assuredly hope to mix with them, being washed from our sins in the Redeemer’s blood.’ ”

“ With a view to this heavenly prospect, she made it her chief care to cultivate in us such dispositions as are befitting the Christian character ; daily labouring at the same time to make us sensible, that Christian virtues could not be attained but by the assistance of the Holy Spirit of God. And I particularly remember that it was one of her first concerns to cultivate and preserve the most perfect love and harmony between me and my brother. My brother was but a twelve-month older than myself, so that till I was six years of age we remained at home together ; in which time, we often had little childish quarrels. But our dear mother, on these occasions, endeavoured to convince us, that such quarrels, however trifling they might appear, furnished as solid a proof of the evil of our nature, as if we had been actually engaged in fighting and tearing each other to pieces ; ‘An offence,’ she would say, ‘the same in kind, though less in degree, with that of the first murderer, who killed his brother.’ And at such seasons she usually made us repeat this beautiful Psalm : *Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity ! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard : that went down to the*

skirts of his garments ; as the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion : for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore. (Psalm cxxxiii.)

“ Before my brother went to school, we had set hours appointed us, in which we regularly applied to whatever was thought necessary for our improvement ; our dear mamma herself daily watching the opening of our minds, and taking great care to instruct us how to make the wisest use of the knowledge we attained. Whatever we read she explained to us in such a way as was calculated to make us the better for our lessons. And among other necessary things, she accustomed us instantly to obey her commands, without waiting to examine the reasons of them. ‘ For this kind of prompt obedience,’ she often used to say, ‘ is what God requires of his creatures ; and therefore parents, who, with respect to their children, stand in the place of God, ought to exact it of them.’ And, with God’s blessing, the habit of obeying our mother the moment she signified her pleasure, was so strongly confirmed with us, that by this means we often avoided many harms. For example : My brother was running one day so giddily round the brink of a well, that if he had made the least false step, he must have fallen to the bottom, and been drowned ; when my mamma, by a sign with her finger, which called him to her, preserved him from the imminent danger he was in of losing his life. After which, she took care that we should both be the better for this little incident, by representing to us, that if our present safety and happiness were so deeply concerned in being

“My brother and I once had a quarrel about something as trifling as your apple of contention; and though we both heartily wished to be reconciled to each other, yet did our evil hearts, so much with stubbornness and pride, that none of us would speak first: by which means we continued in a state of great unhappiness, even when the remedy was within our reach. My mamma observed our situation, and sending for me to her closet, said she was sorry to see that the power of God had so little influence upon me;” continued she, “indeed, Jenny, I am ashamed of your folly, as well as your wickedness, in thus contending with your brother!” A tear, which I believe flowed from shame, started from my eyes at this reproof, and I fixed them on the ground, too much overwhelmed with confusion to lift up towards my mamma. On which she kindly added, that she hoped my confusion signified a sensibility of my fault; and that although she might have adopted another method with me, commanding me to seek a reconciliation with my brother; yet instead of using compulsion, she was rather to persuade me to seek assistance from on high, and to implore a part of that spirit of meekness which once made the Saviour thus exclaim for his persecutors, ‘*Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.*’ (Luke xxiii.)

“As soon as my confusion would give me leave, I thanked her for her condescending goodness, and withdrew to pray for a forgiving spirit: afterwards

I went to seek my brother. He joyfully embraced this opportunity of being reconciled to me ; and this was one of the pleasantest hours of my life. This quarrel happened while my brother was at home, during one of his vacations, and I was then nine years old.

“ My mamma’s attention was continually directed towards keeping up a constant interchange of kind offices between me and my brother. I remember once, when Harry and I were playing in the fields, there was a small rivulet which stopped me in my way. My brother, being nimbler and better able to jump than myself, with one spring leaped over it, and left me behind : but seeing me uneasy that I could not follow him, his good nature prompted him to come back and assist me : when by the help of his hand I easily passed over. On this occurrence my beloved mother bade me remember how much my brother’s superior strength might assist me on many occasions, and entreated me, in return, to use my utmost endeavours to oblige him, that so we might be mutually assistant to each other throughout life. Thus, from every event which passed, our beloved parent took occasion to draw some useful lesson, as the bee extracts honey from every flower.

“ I can only lament that I did not profit more by the excellent instructions and pure example of such a parent. I believe no child ever spent her time more agreeably than I did, or enjoyed more of the pleasures of childhood : for I was always with my mother, and she watched over me so carefully, as generally to prevent my falling into those

she led me immediately to prayer. She taught me, that in the Scriptures a remedy may be found for every affliction, and that the Saviour of mankind is a friend ever ready to assist all who call upon him.

“As we advanced in years, the friendship between me and my brother grew in proportion: yet, tenderly as we loved one another, we were taught, that speaking untruly in each other’s behalf, or praising each other when it was not deserved, was a very great fault. This, my mamma used to tell us, was not *love*, but *hatred*; since it was encouraging one another in folly and wickedness, and acting contrary to that solemn scriptural admonition—*Thou shalt not suffer sin upon thy neighbour.* (Lev. xix. 17.)

“And now I am about to tell you, my dear young friends, of an extreme into which I fell when I was about eleven years old, and which caused me at the time considerable affliction. I had always strong attachments, and sometimes allowed my feelings so far to exceed the bounds of moderation, as to make every body about me very uncomfortable. At the time I speak of, there was a cat which I had brought up from a little kitten, and for which I had indulged so unreasonable a fondness, that I could never be easy but when she was playing around me. And in return for this excess of fondness, the poor animal seemed to have changed its nature, and to have assumed the

manners which more properly belong to dogs than to her own species. It would follow me every where about the house and gardens ; and, what was more remarkable, when fed by my hand, it laid aside all that caution which cats are known to exercise about their food, and would eat whatever I gave it without hesitation, under a seeming conviction that no harm could come to it from me.

"I was at last so accustomed to have this little Frisk (for so I called it) playing about me, that I seemed to lose part of myself in her absence. Till one day I missed the poor little creature, who did not come, as usual, to her breakfast. I walked out into a favourite green alley in the garden, where she used to gambol around me, sometimes climbing the trees with a motion as quick as lightning, and appearing in the branches over my head, and sometimes darting across my path, now before me, now behind me, but never losing sight of me. This day, however, no poor puss was to be found in my favourite walk. I missed her again at dinner : tea-time came, yet she appeared not to claim her portion of cream ; and I never saw her till the next morning, when she returned, and laying herself at my feet, immediately expired.

"She had been, as I afterwards learned, stolen by some cruel boys, who, after hunting her for their wicked sport, had used her so ill, that she had scarcely strength to crawl back to the house which used to afford her protection.

"I was so affected with the sight of my little favourite animal dying in this manner, that I could not repress my grief ; and for a long while "

My management might have been different, but I regret nothing; and, till she might have said, I should have been allowed me to vent my grief; and then, sending for me into her chamber, she spoke to me as follows: 'My dear Jenny, I have watched you ever since the death of your little favourite cat, and have been daily hoping to see your distress on her account gradually mitigated: but finding that you still persist in the indulgence of your sorrow, I cannot but feel greatly afflicted at the sight, since there is reason to fear that in future life these strong feelings of yours, if not properly directed, will make you extremely miserable. As I have always, my beloved child,' added she, 'been in the habit of drawing important lessons from the little occurrences which daily happen among us, let me persuade you to learn from what you have now suffered, to raise your affections from mean and unimportant things to such as are worthy of your regard, and calculated to answer some noble purpose. Set your heart, my dear child, to seek out such objects of pursuit as may, under God, render you both happy and useful. These are always to be found in every situation. There is always some poor baby to work for; some little child to be taught; some old person to be assisted; some kind brother, or sister, or tender parent, to whom comfort may be afforded: therefore, call upon God to direct your feelings, and guide them into a channel of usefulness.'

"If you give way to this melancholy, how will you be able to please and amuse your bro-

at *brother* whom, as you lost your dear papa when you were too young to know that loss, I have endeavoured to educate in such a manner as fit him for becoming your guide and protector. 'speak not much of myself,' added my beloved mother, 'although the period may come, we know not how soon, when you may be deprived of me, and may remember with some uneasiness that you once bestowed much of that precious time upon little inferior animal, which might have been more properly devoted to your mother.'


"I could bear no more, but ran into my mamma's arms. She kissed me tenderly, and said, 'My child, pray earnestly that your affections may be properly directed; pray that the Holy Spirit of God may assist you in the government of your passions: and let this little incident furnish you with an important lesson for life.'

"It would be endless to describe," continued Miss Jenny, "all the methods this good mother made use of for my instruction and improvement: but all her communications had one leading, ruling object, namely, to bring me nearer and nearer to the Saviour. I can give you no idea of the sweet and engaging manner in which she conveyed to me her religious instructions, nor how my heart seemed to glow with divine love while I listened to her conversation on heavenly subjects. During her life-time I was exceedingly happy: but, alas! when I had reached the age of fifteen, the scene suddenly changed, and my dear mamma was taken ill of a scarlet fever. I attended her day and night while she lay ill, my eyes incessantly flowing with tears to see her in that condition:

tears ; " and this was, that my dear mother in her illness often expressed a full dependence on her blessed Saviour, and a firm assurance of redemption through him."

Here Miss Jenny's eyes filled fast with tears. But while she struggled to suppress the rising emotion that interrupted her speech, and was endeavoring to continue her story, she perceived that her companions were so overcome with sympathy that they were on the point of breaking out into one general cry of lamentation. This spectacle affected her exceedingly, and hastened her through the remaining part of her relation.

" After my beloved mother's death," continued Miss Jenny, " I was sent to a large school for a short time ; where, having no opportunity of receiving religious instruction, I became very unhappy, till I could persuade my friends to send me under the care of Mrs. Teachum, with whom I have found myself more happy than I expected to be again, after my irreparable loss. And now I hope, with God's blessing, that our kind governess supplies the place of a mother to me, I may, in some degree, supply to her



perceived, that their hearts were not entirely free from unkind thoughts of each other, though they did not dare to break out again into open quarrels. She was now, therefore, equally surprised and delighted, as she stood at a window in the hall that overlooked the garden, to see all her scholars walking towards her, hand in hand, with more than ordinary marks of affectionate fellowship. And as she considered it proper to mention to them her pleasure at the sight of so agreeable an alteration, Miss Jenny Peace judged it equally proper to relate to her governess all that had passed in the arbour.

"My children," then replied Mrs. Teachum, "let us thank God for this blessed change which has taken place among you, and give the glory to him who maketh men to be of one mind in a house."

Miss Jenny thanked her governess for her kind approbation, and said, that if she would give them leave, they would spend what time she was pleased to allow them from school in the little arbour, either in reading stories, or in such other things as she might think a proper and innocent amusement.

Mrs. Teachum not only allowed this, but very much approved of the proposal: and desired Miss Jenny, as a reward for what she had already done, to preside at those diversions, and to give her an account in what manner they proceeded.

Miss Jenny promised in all things to be guided by Mrs. Teachum. And now, soon after supper,

had passed the day in pleasure, so at night
soon sunk into a soft and sweet repose.

Friday,

The first day of complete reconciliation.

EARLY in the morning, as soon as Miss Jenny arose, all her companions flocked round her ; for they now looked upon her as the best friend they had in the world. So they agreed, when they came out of school, as it was too hot to admit of their taking much exercise, to retire into their arbour, and there divert themselves till dinner-time : which they accordingly did ; when Miss Jenny proposed, if quite agreeable to the party, to read them a story, which she had put in her pocket for that purpose. Beginning therefore now to look upon her as the most proper person to direct them in their amusements, they all replied, that what was most agreeable to her would please them best. Whereupon she began to read the following story, with which we shall open their first day's amusement.

The History of the Princess Rosalinda.

SOME hundred years ago, there dwelt on the borders of Fairy-Land a certain very powerful king, who chose for his queen a young princess having nothing to recommend her but her personal beauty, for she was proud and selfish.

Soon after the new queen arrived at the king's

palace in his capital city, she complained that she could not breathe in a large town, and should entirely lose her health, if he did not provide her with a more airy and pleasant situation.

The king, who made a point of indulging her in all her whims and caprices, immediately employed the most skilful workmen in the city to build her a palace in the centre of a beautiful pleasure-garden, situated at the distance of three leagues from the royal city. Here velvet lawns, pools of water clear as crystal, cascades pouring from mossy rocks, and groves of trees whose many-coloured blossoms embalmed the air with every variety of spicy odour, formed such delicious scenes as cannot easily be imagined. From this garden the lofty hills which formed the boundaries of Fairy-land, and which few mortals were ever allowed to pass over, were distinctly seen lifting their towering heads above the clouds in various grotesque forms, some of them presenting a bare and rugged aspect, and others crowned with forests even to their summits.

The palace which the king caused to be built on this beautiful spot was entirely composed of polished marble; the front consisted of colonnades or pillars, rising many stories above each other, enclosing open galleries and balconies, in which sofas were prepared for the queen, surrounded by embroidered carpets and cushions, on which her ladies might sit around her, and enjoy the beautiful scenery presented to their view. The inner apartments of this palace were hung *with silks of various hues, fastened on the polished walls with rings and loops of gold; and all the*

furniture of the royal apartments was equally magnificent.

When this palace was finished, the king brought his queen, with all her ladies, to it; and there himself, with his courtiers, resorted, whenever the affairs of state permitted them to be absent from the capital city. It might have been expected that her majesty would now have been satisfied, if any thing on earth could make a proud, selfish, and capricious character contented. But whereas the queen had formerly complained bitterly of the noise and bustle of the capital city, she now felt as much discontented with the solitude and stillness of her present abode; although after all the trouble and expense which the king had incurred on her account, she was almost ashamed to complain, and indeed hardly knew what to complain of.

One subject, however, of sorrow continually presented itself to the queen: she had no child, and having now been married some years, she almost despaired of ever having that satisfaction. On this occasion she gave way to the most unreasonable solicitude, allowing herself frequently to break out in the most unbecoming murmurs, and indulging herself on this account in perpetual melancholy and ill-humour.

It happened, one beautiful afternoon, as the queen was sitting on a sofa, in one of the open balconies before mentioned, surrounded by her ladies, that suddenly they were alarmed by the piercing shrieks of some creature in distress; and looking up towards that part of the air from which the sound seemed to proceed, they saw

beautiful white bird making towards them pursued by an eagle, which every moment gained upon it. The ladies immediately raised their voices, with the hope of terrifying the eagle, and making him desist from his pursuit; but in vain: he still followed the little bird till it flew into the gallery, and making directly to the queen, took shelter in her bosom. The eagle, however, still eager for its prey, followed the bird, and would have torn it from the queen, if she had not resolutely covered the little trembler with both her hands; notwithstanding which the furious bird attacked her with his beak and talons, wounding her hand in one or two places before the ladies could drive him away. This, however, they speedily did; and, as they were not able to destroy the eagle, they were glad to see him take wing, and fly from the garden.

After the terrible enemy of the little white bird had taken its flight, and the ladies had bound up the wounded hand of the queen, they found leisure to examine the little creature, who still lay panting and as it were almost dead with fear in the queen's bosom; when they were amazed at its singular beauty and uncommon appearance.

This little bird was somewhat larger than a pigeon, but far more slender and more delicately formed. Its glossy plumage was of the most brilliant whiteness; and on its head was a kind of crown or diadem of feathers, while its eyes were variegated and enriched with purple and gold. Around the neck of this beautiful creature was a string of purple amethysts, fastened with a golden stud or brooch, which rendered it probable that

the bird had been the property of some lady of high rank.

The queen was delighted with this little creature, for whose sake she had acted with so much spirit as to draw forth the praises and plaudits of all her ladies : and it would have been well if these praises had never been lavished on a less worthy occasion.

When the little white bird was somewhat recovered,—for at first it seemed likely to die,—the queen sent one of her ladies to procure for it a cage. The lady soon returned with a large and beautiful cage composed of gold wires ; in which they placed the bird, providing it with seeds, water, fruit, sugar, and every thing which they fancied it might relish.

The little bird, finding itself delivered from its enemy, soon began to recover itself : it partook of its seeds and water, to the great delight of the ladies ; after which it began to dress its feathers, which had been sadly ruffled, and to lay them smooth upon its back. But what pleased the queen most was, that the bird evidently distinguished her from all the ladies of the court, bowing when she came near to it, and rubbing its glossy head against her hand as often as she attempted to fondle it. All this while, however, it never uttered any kind of note, but remained perfectly silent.

On the queen's retiring to rest, she delivered the bird to the care of two ladies of her court, with a strong charge to pay it every possible attention, and bring it to her as soon as she awoke in the morning.

The history of the white bird and of the queen's wounded hand was soon carried to the capital city ; and, in consequence of this intelligence, the king came the next day to see her, attended by some of the most skilful surgeons which the city could afford. But it was more than six weeks before the queen's wound was healed ; and a scar yet remained on her hand, when one evening, as the king and queen were sitting conversing together, they suddenly saw a chariot, to which winged horses were attached, flying swiftly towards them through the air. As their habitation bordered closely on Fairy-Land, they were not so much surprised at these kind of appearances as might have been expected, since they were accustomed frequently to see the fairies passing to and fro through the air : but they were somewhat perplexed on perceiving the carriage to stop at the end of the balcony where they were sitting, from which a very beautiful lady immediately alighted and walked towards them.

The king and queen immediately arose to receive this extraordinary visiter ; and as she came forward to meet them, they had leisure to contemplate her figure. She was exceedingly fair and lovely, and there was a peculiar sweetness and modesty expressed in her countenance. She was dressed in a robe of azure silk, while a veil of delicate texture and dazzling whiteness shaded her face.

As she drew near to the king and queen, she saluted them in the most respectful manner, they returned the compliment with an equal degree of ceremony.

The lady introduced herself to their majesties by the name of the fairy Serena, saying that she came to thank the queen for a service which she had lately done her, and by which she felt herself peculiarly obliged, especially as she understood that the queen had suffered much on the occasion.

The queen looked surprised. Upon which the fairy explained herself, telling her majesty, that the little bird she had saved from the claws of the eagle was hers, and that it was extremely dear to her, inasmuch as it had been formerly a present from her mother, and had from that time been her constant companion and attendant. "For," added the fairy, "it is a custom in our country for every fairy to be attended either by some favourite individual of her own species, or by some beautiful animal. But," continued the fairy, "my naughty little bird one day wandered from me, and having flown over the hills which bound our country, was attacked by the furious eagle from which your majesty rescued it at the expense of receiving a wound in your hand; and for this favour I shall feel myself under a lasting obligation to your majesty."

The queen said, that she felt herself very happy in having had it in her power to oblige so illustrious a personage.

The king and queen then invited the fairy to sit down by them, while they caused refreshments to be brought; with which request the fairy very politely complied.

And now, if the king and queen had been pleased with the sweet and modest appearance of

But she was so immediately and innocently sensible of the king's situation, with a true and unfeigned pleasure. At length, the evening wearing away, the fairy arose, and addressing herself to the queen, said, "I am now going to require a great favour of your majesty; but in return I think that it is in my power to afford you a satisfaction which will more than repay you for any act of self-denial, which you may be induced to perform on my account."

At this, the queen coloured, for she guessed that the fairy was going to ask for her bird: feeling, however, that she had no right to keep it from her, she speedily answered, "You are about, madam, I foresee, to ask for your bird. You have an undoubted right to it; it is assuredly yours; and although it will be a great trial to me to part with it, I certainly cannot think of refusing it to you." The queen then called one of her ladies, who waited in the next apartment, and ordered her to bring the cage.

While the lady was fetching the cage, the eyes of the queen filled with tears; and the king looked as though he wished it possible that she might keep her favourite bird: but the moment the lady appeared with the cage, the bird acknowledged the fairy by every possible expression of joy, and by uttering such sweet and melodious notes as ravished all who heard them. The fairy also expressed great pleasure; and, requesting the lady to open the cage-door, the beautiful little creature flew directly into the fairy's bosom.

At sight of this the queen burst into tears. Whereupon the fairy coming close up to her, and

taking her hand, said; "These tears of your majesty afflict me : I therefore rejoice that it is in my power to give you comfort, by informing you of what, by my art as a fairy, I am able to foresee. Within less than twelve months from this time, instead of this little bird on which your heart is now fixed, you shall carry in your bosom a little daughter ; and I promise myself the pleasure of being present in this palace on the day that a name shall be given to the little princess."

This news, indeed, as the fairy had foreseen, entirely removed the sorrow of the queen, while the king himself assumed a countenance of more than ordinary satisfaction. The queen could now take leave of her favourite bird without distress; and attend the fairy to her carriage with every expression of esteem and regard : the king also assured their fair visitant that he sincerely hoped to see her on the occasion she mentioned, and as often before as she might be disposed to favour them.

Thus the fairy and their majesties parted, mutually pleased with each other ; and the fairy returned with her beautiful bird to her palace in Fairy Land.

As Serena had foretold, considerably within the year, the queen was happy enough to present the king with a very lovely little daughter. It was soon determined by the royal parents that the princess should be called Rosalinda : but when they came to consider what day should be appointed for publicly naming her, they became greatly perplexed about the means of communicating such information to the fairy. While how-

and the queen, descending on the instant, a little way ahead from the fairy, bearing her congratulations on the birth of the princess, together with an assurance that whatever day they might be pleased to appoint for the naming of the royal child, she would assuredly be present, without requiring to be advertised thereof beforehand.

The little page who brought the fairy's message was only two feet high ; but so swift of foot, that he was able to outrun the fleetest deer in the king's park.

While the queen was preparing an answer to the fairy, the ladies of the court caressed the little page, offering him sweetmeats and other presents. But he was impatient to be gone ; and no sooner had he received the queen's letter, than he returned towards Fairy-Land, swift as an arrow from the bow.

When the day arrived on which the little princess was to receive her name, the road between the capital city and the queen's palace was crowded with carriages, horses, and foot passengers of every description. For the king had resolved on this occasion not only to regale all the nobles and gentry of his kingdom, but to provide for the entertainment even of the lower classes. The parks and lawns therefore which surrounded the palace were filled with tables plentifully stored with provisions ; while preparations were made for every kind of amusement, both within the palace and in the open air.

In the midst of all these rejoicings, the fairy Serena appeared ; and having alighted from her carriage at one of the gates of the palace, she


entered the great hall, where the king and queen with the principal nobility were assembled; the little princess also being present in the arms of one of the first ladies of the court. The fairy having saluted the king and queen, and congratulated them on their present happiness, went up to the little princess, and stood awhile admiring her exceeding loveliness as she lay asleep in the lady's arms.

The king and queen were greatly pleased to see the fairy, and so pressingly invited her to stay and partake of the feast, that she could not refuse.

Accordingly, when the ceremony of naming the princess was concluded, she sat down to the banquet with the king and queen and the chief of the nobility, making herself so truly agreeable, as to delight the whole party. In the evening, while the company were engaged, some in dancing, some in singing, and others in looking at curious spectacles and interludes which were exhibited for their entertainment—the fairy, who took no particular pleasure in things of this kind, found an opportunity of being alone with the queen, who had retired to the apartment of the little princess: and there, while she sat contemplating the lovely little baby as it lay in its cradle, she gave much sweet and salutary counsel to the queen concerning her future management of the lovely Rosalinda. “I am,” said the fairy, “myself the mother of several children; and it has been my constant endeavour to make them humble, and teach them the duty of self-command. Self-command is a universal duty, and tends to the happiness of every individual: but it is of most

having the command of a great empire, will be made, if she possesses a well-regulated mind, a general blessing to her people. But if she shall be brought up in self-indulgence, and in a false opinion of her own qualifications, she will only become a torment to herself, but the cause of great trouble to her people: neither can in that case yield any comfort to her parents: on the contrary, you will have reason to regret that your wish of possessing a child was granted to you." The fairy finished her discourse by presenting the queen with a little box of coral, containing a valuable present of rich jewels for the little princess: after which she took leave of the queen, having first kissed the sleeping Rosalinda, and promised to see her again at a future time.

I am sorry to say, that the good counsel given by the fairy to the queen was quite thrown away for, instead of endeavouring to bring up the princess in a humble manner, and teaching her to control her passions; there was no possible indulgence which this indiscreet mother did not give her. And though the fairy, from year to



ing her. Moreover, she was greatly offended with her servants or ladies, if they ever dared to thwart her inclinations in the smallest degree.

In this manner the little princess was brought up till she was four years of age ; at which time the fairy again made the queen a visit. She found the queen in a large hall, at the further end of which, on a brocade carpet, the attendants of the little princess were sitting round her in a circle. All of them were trying to divert her ; but with such ill success, that instead of expressing any satisfaction, Rosalinda broke out from time to time into expressions of ill-humour and peevishness, throwing upon the floor whatever was offered her, and even sometimes slapping the hands of those who attempted to touch her.

The fairy had brought with her a basket of playthings for the little princess. These playthings were of a particular kind, and such as were used by all the families in Fairy-Land. They were fabricated by an old fairy called Content ; and besides being of exquisite workmanship and extraordinary beauty, they had this peculiar property—that whatever accident befell them, they could not be broken or injured, except their owner should strike them, or throw them down in a fit of passion or discontent, when they would become as brittle as glass, and fall to pieces. These playthings were to be had in every imaginable variety and in every pleasing form : but the set which the fairy now brought the princess, represented to the life, and in a marvellously beautiful manner, all the beasts and birds of Fairy-Land. The fairy explained the nature of these playthings to the

queen, and queen called the little princess, and presented them to her: she thanked her mother to announce to her this information: after which she took her leave.

The princess Rosalinda was at first much pleased with these beautiful toys: and amused herself with arranging them all on the floor, calling her attendants to admire them. But she soon became weary of them, and in a few days had destroyed all of them, by throwing down sometimes one, sometimes another, in her passion. And thus the beautiful workmanship of the fairy Content was totally destroyed before the fairy Serena paid her next annual visit.

On Serena's next appearance, Rosalinda was five years of age, and was become more passionate, proud, and selfish, even than she had been the year before. The fairy, who had been in the habit every year of bringing the princess a present, brought her this year a little dog, whose eyes were blue, his back of the finest brown, and his face, neck, and four feet, white as snow. The hair of this little creature was soft as silk, and hanging, particularly about his head, in beautiful curls.

The fairy, after having paid her usual compliments to the queen, asked to see the princess: but Rosalinda was ashamed to come into the fairy's presence, recollecting that she had broken all her last year's present of playthings. When the fairy understood the state of the case, she failed not gently to reprimand the princess, and to remind her how sad a thing it was to give way to passion. However, upon Rosalinda's promising

that she would behave better in future, she presented her with the little dog ; at the same time pointing out to her the beauty of the little creature, and assuring her that if the gentle animal were ill used, his silken hair would fall off, his blue eyes would become dim, and he would pine away till he became nothing but skin and bone.

The little princess, having received the dog, ran to show it to her attendants, leaving the fairy with the queen, who took this occasion to point out to her what misery she was laying up for herself and her child, by her indiscreet and even cruel indulgence.

While the fairy was thus earnestly conversing with the queen, the king entered the hall where they were sitting ; when, instead of breaking off her discourse, she immediately addressed herself on the same subject to him. The king, who had long perceived the faulty manner in which his child was managed, and was fully sensible of its evil effects on her disposition, listened to the fairy with more attention than his queen had done : and on her ceasing to speak, he confessed that all she had said was but too true : asking her at the same time what method she would advise them to take with the little princess.

“ Why,” replied the fairy, “ remove from her all those persons who have hitherto been in the habit of flattering her and administering to her caprices, and place her under the charge of a wise and conscientious governess ; such a one,” added the fairy, “ as I could recommend to you, and would bring to the palace immediately, if *your majesty* approved it.”

There the discourse between the king and the fairy was interrupted by the queen, who, bursting into tears, begged that no change might be made until the fairy's next annual visit; "and in the mean time," she said, "I will endeavour to check and control my daughter, and bring her into a more reasonable state of mind."

The king being touched by the queen's tears, said no more; and the fairy, soon afterwards, took her leave.

And now another twelvemonth had passed away, which brought the little princess to the seventh year of her age: but instead of any improvement having taken place in her during this interval, she was become more naughty than ever. For a few days she had been pleased with her little dog, and treated him kindly: but when he was no longer a new acquisition, she got weary of him, and treated him with continued unkindness; insomuch that he began to pine away—his beautiful curling hair fell off, his eyes became dim, and, as the fairy had predicted, before the twelvemonth was nearly over, he became nothing but skin and bone.

On observing the altered state of the little dog, the queen expostulated with her daughter, and warned her of the fairy's displeasure. The princess however would not hearken to her mother, but answered her with great insolence: and, more than once, she even went so far as to slap her mother's hands, when she would have restrained her by force from beating the little dog.

The time at length came when the fairy was *expected*, and the king made a point of being at

the queen's palace on the well-known day. It was not necessary for the fairy to ask how the princess had behaved during the last few months ; the state of the poor little thin dog, who ran up to the fairy as soon as he heard her voice, discovered plainly enough the naughtiness of the princess. The king and queen were sitting with the fairy when the dog ran up to her ; and the queen blushed deeply.

"Your Majesty will give me leave," said the fairy, "to take this little dog home with me?"

"Certainly," replied the queen, blushing deeply again. "I can make no excuse for my daughter ; she has behaved very ill to the little dog, and to me also on his account."

"If that be the case," replied the king, "and you find it impossible to control our little daughter, do not, my dear wife, from false tenderness, reject our good friend Serena's advice, but consent that she shall bring you a governess properly qualified to educate our beloved child."

After some hesitation and tears on the part of the queen, she submitted to this proposal : when Serena, taking the little dog in her arms, departed to Fairy-Land, promising in a few days to return with a suitable governess for the little princess.

The fairy returned, as she had promised, in a few days, and brought with her a lady of a very sweet and agreeable appearance, who professed herself willing to undertake the charge of the princess. But as the queen would not, at that time, consent that the ladies who had always attended the child, and who were accustomed to indulge her whims and caprices of every kind,

was removed. The princess expressed some doubts that her attendance would produce an advantage to the little princess. The fairy, however, encouraged her at least to make the trial, and promised to return in the course of a few months to observe how she succeeded.

As the governess had predicted, she soon found it impossible to benefit the princess, surrounded as she was by a multitude of flatterers. So that when the fairy returned after a few months, she found that the child was become so humoursome and capricious, that even the queen herself, under evident alarm, expressed, for the first time, a willingness to adopt whatever method the king and the fairy might recommend.

The king, being fully aware of the state of his little daughter, was happy to find the queen in so reasonable a temper on this occasion: and he assured the fairy, that they were now both ready to submit to whatever she might propose.

"Then," replied the fairy, "what I have to propose is, that you should trust the little princess to my charge for a few years, and I will take her with her governess to Fairy-Land, where I will bring her up as I did my own children, who have now left me, being married and having families of their own. She shall occupy the same apartments which they did, and be regulated by the same laws which have rendered them so truly amiable, that they are now the boast of their parents, and the delight of their friends. I love the little princess," added the fairy, "though I see her faults. When I first beheld her sleeping in the arms of her attendants, and contemplated all her

infantine charms, I felt my heart drawn towards her in such a way as has never allowed me to cease regretting, that she should be so brought up as to render her wretched for life."

The fairy ceased speaking ; when the king and queen, feeling the value of the offer she had made, most thankfully accepted it, although not without some natural feelings of reluctance, and many tears on the part of the queen. The queen begged a few months delay ; but the king argued, that there had already been too great a delay, the princess being now in her seventh year, totally ignorant, and becoming every day more wilful, proud, and selfish.

After some opposition on the part of the queen, it was settled that Rosalinda, with her governess, should that same evening accompany the fairy to her abode. Accordingly, after dinner, which the fairy partook of with their majesties, Serena and the governess being seated on each side the carriage, Rosalinda was placed between them by her weeping mother ; while all the ladies of the court were assembled, pretending excessive grief, when, in fact, they all rejoiced to be freed from the vexatious humours of their little tyrant.

Rosalinda was too much absorbed by her own selfish feelings to be greatly troubled at the tears which were shed on her account. But when she felt the carriage in motion, and perceived that it was rising in the air, she became much alarmed, and began to struggle and shriek violently. The fairy, however, held her down ; and telling her that no one present would be in the least disconcerted by her cries, she soon became composed.

And now the flying troop, ascending higher in

the air, passed over the tops of those mountains which bound the beautiful kingdom of the fairies; when presently descending, they alighted on the other side of them, and began to run with slackened speed along the ground. The governess now expressed great pleasure to find herself once again in her own country; for she also was a fairy, though of much inferior degree to Serena.

The fairy Serena then permitted the princess to stand up and look around her. With this permission she was greatly pleased; and, young as she was, she expressed great delight at the scene which now presented itself to her view. The whole of the country was covered with a short green turf, smooth as velvet, without hedge or fence, but scattered with groves of trees of every possible variety: some like the palm tree, with crowned heads; others of a more spiry form, resembling the pine; others again with spreading branches, or large fanlike leaves; but all bearing fruit, buds, and blossoms, in the greatest abundance. A number of palaces, built of the most splendid materials, presented themselves to the eye, being situated here and there among the trees, some half concealed by the woods, and others occupying a more prominent situation. Some of these palaces were built of crystals, some of amethysts, some of emeralds, some of diamonds, others of topazes, and *others of an assemblage of all these precious materials.* Neither was the country flat; but abounding with every kind of variety of hill and dale.

and rock ; with waterfalls, lakes, and little pools, all clear as crystal, and inhabited by water-fowls, some of which were white as snow, others purple, and others of a brilliant rose colour. But to describe the flowers which grew spontaneously in every part of these beautiful regions, would be wholly impossible ; and not less so, to give any idea of the brilliancy of their colouring, or of the odours which they scattered through the air.

After journeying through this delightful scenery for about an hour, the winged steeds turned aside from the high road, which the fairy informed the princess led to the capital of Fairy-Land ; and passing through a grove of considerable extent, they at length came in view of Serena's palace.

The walls of this palace were of emeralds, and the roof of burnished gold. On approaching the palace, the fairy pointed it out to the princess ; and then kissing her affectionately, she said, " My beloved princess, you now see my palace, and I hope you will be happy while you are an inhabitant of it. You will find there every comfort which you possessed in your father's house : but neither in this place nor in any other can you expect to be happy, unless your evil passions be first subdued, and you become truly humble, thinking better of those about you than of yourself."

The little princess made no answer ; and as the chariot now drew up close to the gate of the palace, the fairy's servants came out joyfully to receive their mistress, and to lift the little princess out of the carriage.

Rosalinda was astonished at the order and beauty of every thing within the palace, while

CHAPTER XXV
The first of these apartments, simply but conveniently furnished, with a large closet or dressing-room. The first of these apartments was a study, well furnished with all manner of profitable and pleasant books for children; the second was a sleeping-room, neat, airy, in which was a bed prepared for Rosalind and another for her governess; the third was a dining-room; and the fourth was an apartment well furnished with playthings. The closet or dressing-room was provided with a wardrobe, containing suits of clothes of various kinds for the use of the princess and her governess; together with a large mirror which presented the figure of the princess who looked into it from head to foot.

In these apartments, were four little maids, neat, civil, and lovely, in their appearance; whose business it was to wait upon such as inhabited these rooms, and to provide them with all that might require.

On the next day, she supped this evening with Rosalind in her dining-room.

Her governess expostulated with her : but to no purpose. She ordered her breakfast to be brought to her bed-side ; and when it was brought, finding fault with every thing, she quickly required it to be taken away, insisting that the servants should go and bring her some fruit from a tree which she saw from her window. But neither did this please her ; for after eating a little she threw away the rest, complaining that it was too sweet ; upon which she began to cry bitterly.

At length, however, being weary of her bed, she allowed the attendants to dress her ; though without finding fault with the clothes they brought her, and requiring them several times to be changed.

When she was dressed, her governess with some difficulty persuaded her to go into the apartment which contained the books. This room was adorned with many pictures of the fairy's children, representing them employed as they used to be, some with their books, others with their needle, some with their harp, and those with their pencil. The governess pointed out to the princess the pictures of these lovely children, and asked her if the sight of them did not inspire her with a wish to be like them ?

The little princess made no answer to her governess, but looked sullen ; and when her governess offered her a book, she tossed it carelessly from her, saying that she was not disposed to read that day. As the fairy had desired the governess to correct Rosalinda for a few days, but to try every other means with her first (for which reason the fairy had a reason which will hereafter

the governess, and herself, with common and domestic. But, she talked to her, the names obtruded, and the child became ; till, at length, getting the side of her governess, she walked out of room.

"Where are you going, my princess?" the governess. Rosalinda made no answer. The governess repeated the question: upon which the princess answered, "If you wish to know at liberty to come and see."

The governess got up, and followed the princess; who, calling aloud for her attendants, entered into the play-room, and ordered the servants to reach her down a variety of playthings from the shelves on which they were ranged, and place them on the carpet. While the attendants obeyed, the princess sat haughtily delivering commands; till, at last, being weary of the noise and all about her, she took up a handful of the things, and dashing them upon the ground, broke them all to pieces: for these toys were of the same kind as those which the fairy had brought her, and capable only of being broken by persons in a passion.

The governess now again expostulated with the princess, which so increased her ill-humour, that, spurning the rest of the playthings with her, she walked out of the play-room into the garden. There, although every thing that was new to her in nature presented itself to her eyes, she could enjoy nothing, but kept calling imperiously to her attendants, *her*, commanding the attendants to bring her, *and flowers of every kind she saw, and the*

ing them away as soon as she had received them, saying, that some were too sweet and others too sour, and finding fault with something in every pleasant flower. In this manner she wasted all the precious morning, wearying every one who had the misfortune to be near her.

At length she was summoned to the dining-room, where she found a neat and elegant little repast prepared for herself and her governess: but she had so entirely palled her stomach by tasting a variety of fruits, that she had now no appetite. However, she sat down, and caused something to be brought her from every dish; which, after just touching, she ordered away with expressions of disgust. The governess now attempted to reason with her again: but she grew impertinent, and to show her ill-humour got up and left the table, calling her attendants to follow her.

"But, my princess," said the governess, "it is now time for your servants to eat their dinner."

"They may dine when I have done with them," answered the princess, haughtily.

The governess expostulated again. The princess was obstinate, and walked away, charging her attendants to follow her, till she came to the dressing-room; where, standing before the large mirror, she caused the servants to take out a variety of dresses from the wardrobe and try them upon her. But although they were formed of the finest silks and exhibited the most beautiful colours, she rejected every dress, either scattering them upon the floor or throwing them in the faces of her attendants. Her governess then reproved

upon which she became so violently pe-
rsecuted, as to strike the attendants who waited
upon her. At length being dressed, though not
at all to her satisfaction, and having admired her
own face and figure for some time in the glass,
she walked out into the garden, commanding her
attendants to follow her. "And will you not
allow them to dine first, my princess?" said the
governess.

Rosalinda made no answer, but walked on.

In the garden she met the little dog which she
had formerly used so ill: he had a little recovered
his spirits, and his hair had begun to grow again.
This little creature, forgetting all the unkind usage
he had received from the princess, ran fondly up
to her, and jumping upon her, tore a small hole in
her dress, which was of a texture resembling fine
gauze. Now although the princess had never
been accustomed to care for her clothes, she was
in so ill a temper at this time, that she struck the
little dog with great violence, and drove him from
her. The governess again reproved her, but in
vain; and Rosalinda walked on, till she came to
the side of a clear lake, upon which were several
water-fowls of a beautiful rose colour. On this
lake there was also a pleasure-boat, and it was
now fastened to the shore. Rosalinda no sooner
saw the birds than she eagerly desired to have
one of them, and insisted that her attendants
should get into the boat and endeavour to catch
one for her. But when they told her that in this
case they could not obey her, she became quite
outrageous, and even attempted to push one of
them into the water.

The governess now found it necessary to interfere with more firmness; and taking hold of the princess, she with some difficulty persuaded her to leave the water-side, and return to the palace where the rest of the evening was spent much in the same manner as the former part of the day had been.

At supper-time Serena, who had been from home all the day, it being a great day at court, when all the chief fairies of the land were obliged to present themselves before the king, came to see the princess, and to sup with her.

Rosalinda tried to look somewhat good-humoured when the fairy appeared. But she did not succeed so well as to conceal her ill-temper from Serena, who easily perceived the state of her mind: she however said nothing to the princess that evening, but after sitting with her awhile, took her leave.

There was as much trouble in getting the princess to bed as there had been in getting her up. And now, as I have given you an exact account of Rosalinda's behaviour during the first day which she spent in Fairy-Land, I shall not trouble you with the history of any more such unprofitable days. It is sufficient to say, that the princess spent four or five more days much in the same way, if not in a still more offensive manner: at length she became so violent and unruly, that the governess found herself under the necessity of calling in the fairy, and making a formal complaint against the princess, declaring, that it was impossible any longer to endure her capricious ways.

I want no governess, nor any other person over me."

"What!" said the fairy, "and who then you wish to direct and govern you?"

"No one," replied the princess, "but

"Well," said the fairy, "then I will indulge you; and you shall be left to your discretion. You shall have your wish, and be under no control but that of Self, become weary of Self, and ask me again for a governess."

Rosalinda smiled, and said, "If you take this governess away from me, you will do me a great favour; and," added she, "if she does not return till I ask for her again, I think it will be a very long time before she comes back."

"Very well," said the fairy, "I shall remember what you say: in the mean time, as it is now evening, go to bed; and when you are dressed in the morning, send for me, and you shall see that I will do for you."

Agreeably to the words of the fairy, Rosalinda was no sooner awake and dressed the next morning, than she called for the fairy, who can

she said, "You are at liberty, Madam, to leave the princess' apartments, and you will find others prepared for you in another part of my palace."

The governess instantly obeyed the fairy's words, and taking leave of the princess, who scarcely deigned to return her compliments, she walked out of the room.

"And now," said the fairy, as soon as the door was shut upon the governess, "follow me, my princess: I have sent away your governess, and I now proceed to fulfil the remainder of my promise." Rosalinda followed the fairy, who led her into the dressing-room, where was the large mirror; and setting the little girl before it, she said, "You see in that mirror, my princess, the person whom you wish to rule over you."

"Yes," said the princess, "I see *Myself*; and I desire no other ruler than the person whom that glass now represents."

"On this subject then," replied the fairy, "you have made up your mind?"

"I have," said the princess.

"But," continued the fairy, "before I give way to you altogether, I will fairly state to you, that there is no tyranny so insupportable as the tyranny of Self; because the hardest master or mistress cannot be *always* present with the object of their ill-treatment. The most miserable slave of any other tyrant has some moments of rest and peace; but the slave of Self never knows any comfort or ease whatever, because his tyrant is always present with him, and there is no possibility of escape from him."

The princess stared at the fairy with an expr

me, it will be strange indeed."

"Well," said the fairy, "it is sufficient that I have given you my opinion on this subject: I now proceed to fulfil my promise." So saying, with her wand which she held in her hand she struck the mirror before which they stood, which instantly fell to pieces with a tremendous crash: at the same moment every particle of the broken glass disappeared, and in its place stood the figure which had been represented on its polished surface, fully formed large as life, the very countenance and semblance of Rosalinda herself.

The princess, terrified with the noise and prodigy which ensued, started back, and for some moments stood perfectly silent, till the voice of the fairy recalled her to herself. "Rosalinda," said she, "I have granted your request: behold *Yourself* !—the very person you wished to be your governess and ruler—you now have what you required. *This* , which is indeed your very *Self* , shall be your constant companion, the regulator of all your actions, your confidante, your counsellor, and your inseparable companion; and you shall have no other ruler, until you desire

wonder-working wand had excited. By degrees however she became more composed : and beginning to contemplate her new companion with less surprise, she speedily became pleased with her, admiring her form, her features, her hair, her complexion, and the whole of her person ; till at length, fear being quite overcome, she began to caress her.

"And what," said she to the fairy, "must I call her?"

"*Soimême*," replied the fairy.

"O lovely *Soimême*," added the princess, "henceforth I will have no friend but *Soimême*."

The fairy then bidding Rosalinda adieu, said, "My princess, I now leave you, hoping you will acknowledge that I have fulfilled every article of my promise."

The princess assured the fairy that she was perfectly satisfied, and wished her a good morning ; delighted to be left entirely under the direction of her darling *Soimême*.

As soon as the fairy was gone, *Soimême*, who had hitherto remained silent, began, without ceremony, to call for her breakfast, and that in a voice imperious, that Rosalinda started. The breakfast, however, being prepared in the usual apartment, there could be no difficulty, she thought, in supplying her present wants. But when *Soimême* came to the breakfast-table, there was nothing there provided which seemed to please her. And though Rosalinda and the attendants reached her and set before her the best of every thing on the table, she cast all from her with con- giving way to a violent fit of ill-humour

which faded till every stamp was removed
of value. Then then she drew to the li-
brary. Her attendant, taking down one book
another, pointed out some which contained
tiful pictures. *Soimême*, however, was not
amused by these ; but after yawning and stret-
over them awhile, she at length threw the
upon the floor. The play-room was next
where the little servants were directed to
down the playthings from the shelves. And
Soimême became more troublesome than
she always wanted that plaything which was
difficult to be reached ; which was no s
brought to her, than she would dash it o
ground, and call for another.

The princess next hoped that her insepa-
companion might be better pleased in the ga-
but neither was any thing found there capa-
yielding her satisfaction. The sweetest fruit
the fairest flowers were all equally despise
her ; she threw them down at her feet as so
they were offered her, scarcely deigning to
the one or smell the other.

At dinner, *Soimême* was as difficult to be pl-
as on every other occasion ; and after dinne-
became more violent and troublesome than
She would now be dressed afresh, and for
purpose made every one run to fetch her dif-
kinds of dresses. But one was too thick
another too thin ; some too gay, and other
grave ;—in short, nothing would please her
that, after many loud complaints, she finish-
evening with a violent fit of crying. On
to bed with her little fretful companion. Re-

ould not help secretly wishing that it were possible to get rid of her, if it were only for a few hours.

In the morning, and during the next day, the same scenes were acted over again. *Soimême* was not to be pleased by any means that could be devised, neither would she suffer poor Rosalinda to enjoy the smallest degree of peace : it was one continued round of fretting, crying, and complaining ; while the more Rosalinda endeavoured to please her, the more humoursome she became. But the worst of all was, that the complaints of *Soimême* were for the most part directed against Rosalinda herself, while at the same time she would never leave her, but clung to her so closely, and hung upon her so importunately, that the princess became completely miserable. Yet being too proud to complain to Serena of the ruler she had chosen, she allowed many days to pass away in this manner ; during which *Soimême* became more and more violent and imperious. She at length took to pinch and bite the princess whenever she offended her ; and this she particularly did when the princess was in bed with her, and trying to go to sleep.

And now indeed poor Rosalinda began to think of the assertion of the fairy—that the most miserable slave of the most cruel tyrant had some moments of peace : but that the slave of Self had no rest, no hope, no alleviation of torment. Her pride and false shame, however, for some time restrained her from confessing her wretched state to the fairy. But at length, finding her situation altogether insupportable, she one morning resolved to see Serena ; when throwing herself

the direction of her governess.

"And are you willing," said the fairy, "to submit to your governess in every point never to dispute her commands? for upon condition only can I deliver you from the power of Self."

"I am willing," replied the princess, "to endure any thing, rather than be subject any more to what I have lately suffered."

The fairy, after some further entreaties and supplications on the part of the princess, led her once again into the dressing-room, touching *Soimême* with her wand, the mirror appeared again in its pristine state, and Rosalinda was delivered from her little tyrant, who took her to a secret place, as beforetime, in the looking-glass.

"And there," said the joyful Rosalinda, "let her stay: I shall never again take any more pleasure in looking at her."

"I hope not," said the fairy. "But you must always fear Self, and ever guard against her encroachments, never thinking it possible to get sufficiently beyond the reach of its influence."

The same day the fairy brought her go-

, and leave you with her." This alarming it was invariably effectual, so firmly resolved the princess rather to endure any hardship to be placed again under the dominion of

Rosalinda became meek and submissive, she me also happy. . Having discarded Self, she n to love all about her ; and, perceiving the of her present advantages, she rapidly im- ed in every desirable accomplishment.

nd now the fairy was enabled to offer her pleasures which she could not permit her rly to enjoy. She often took her in an even- when she had performed her daily tasks to atisfaction of her governess, to observe the iful scenery of Fairy-Land. And sometimes vent with her to walk in a grove of trees re- ling rose trees, but growing to a much greater t than that shrub is ever known to do ; which : was the original seat of that species of birds mentioned in the beginning of this

ere the princess saw many of these lovely ; some feeding their little ones in perfumèd formed of the never-fading blossoms of those ; some singing sweetly in the dark green hes, and others hopping gaily from bough igh. Serena also frequently led the princess several green and lovely parks, where were deer and beautiful young fawns ; some white ow, some of a delicate brown, but all living eet harmony together, without fear of dog, iter, or any other enemy. At other times y conducted her to the summit of a hill

the princess she showed her the capital of the nation sparkling with gold and diamonds, and all the towers and spires to the very clouds. She, moreover, introduced Rosalinda to her own children, who were settled in different parts of the country. Thus, after the princess had spent the former part of the day in improving herself, the fairy provided her a variety of innocent recreations in the evening.

In this manner the princess Rosalinda spent several years in the palace of Serena, becoming, after the banishment of *Soimême*, every day more lovely and agreeable, progressively improving in every branch of learning, growing more and more humble, and discovering more and more anxiety to advance the happiness of all around her.

At length the time came when she was to quit Fairy-Land and return to her parents. And on this occasion I leave you to imagine, if you can, the joy of the king and queen in receiving their daughter once again, and especially in seeing her every thing which the most anxious parents could wish to see a favourite child—lovely in outward appearance, but still more excellent in mental accomplishments.

The princess Rosalinda ascended the throne of her father long before the death of the old king, who, becoming weary of the toils of government, retired at an advanced age to his queen's palace, having first placed the crown upon the head of his beloved daughter, with the approbation of all his subjects, who long enjoyed the benefit of her *well-ordered* government. Nor should it be le

unrecorded, that the amiable example of this admired princess produced a most desirable change in the disposition of the queen mother.

The good fairy Serena came every year to see her beloved princess, when she never failed to bring with her Rosalinda's excellent governess: the king and queen also, in company with their daughter, were more than once permitted to visit the fairy at her beautiful palace in Fairy-Land.

Miss Jenny. Peace had scarcely finished this little story, when the bell ringing, summoned the young people to their dinner: after which Mrs. Teachum taking Miss Jenny apart, inquired of her what she had found that day for the amusement of her little companions.


Miss Jenny then taking the little book from her pocket, presented it to her governess; who, retiring to her closet, occupied herself in reading it till the bell rang for school.

When school was over, and the little ones were preparing for their evening walk, Mrs. Teachum took the opportunity of returning Miss Jenny's book, saying, with a smile, "My dear Miss Jenny, I do not dislike your story, since its tendency is extremely good; but I will give you a reason why fairy-tales and tales of genii, generally speaking, however well written, can scarcely ever be rendered profitable, and therefore should be sparingly used."

Here Miss Jenny coloured, and her eyes filled with tears. Upon which, Mrs. Teachum affectionately taking her hand, said, "I do not intend *by this to blame you for what you have done; but only wish, my dear child, to lead you from these trifles to better things.* You are. I know. strong

know also how necessary it is not to an opportunity of inculcating these doctrines (minds of young people, according to that tural direction : *For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line upon line; here a little, and there a little.* (xxviii. 10.) Now although," continued Teachum, "it is not found that very people are profited by grave discourses or discussions of religious subjects, and that in tion when conveyed through the medium of beautiful story or pleasant tale, more eas sinuates itself into the youthful mind than thing of a drier nature; yet the greatest is necessary that the instruction thus conveyed should be perfectly agreeable to the Christian dispensation. Fairy-tales therefore are in general an improper medium of instruction, because it would be absurd in such tales to introduce Christian principles as motives of action: and we are assured from the highest authority that children can do well without the help of the Holy Spirit.

Mrs. Teachum here paused a minute, and that Miss Jenny Peace looked as if she did not



since it would be wholly absurd to introduce solemn Christian doctrines into fairy-tales ; on this account such tales should be very sparingly used, it being extremely difficult, if not impossible, from the reason I have specified, to render them generally useful. I do not, however," added she, " always prohibit fairy-tales, my dear child : but when you next have occasion to read to your companions, apply to me and I will endeavour to furnish you with some story of a superior tendency to the common run of amusing tales.

Miss Jenny thanked Mrs. Teachum for her instructions and kind indulgence ; and promising to give her an exact account of their daily amusements, she took leave, and retired to rest.

Saturday,

The second Day.

ON Miss Jenny's meeting her companions the morning after school in the beloved school, she asked them how they liked the history of princess Rosalinda.

They all declared that they thought it a pretty and diverting story.

Miss Jenny then repeated to them the part of the conversation which had passed between herself and her governess the evening before, and endeavoured to impress upon their minds the awful truth, namely, that no human being can do well without divine assistance; and that frequently, whatever statements of a different doctrine they might chance to find in fairy-tales, poems, or heathen histories, should be considered as absolute misrepresentations, because mankind being naturally vile and depraved, cannot perform well without the assistance of the Holy

give you wisdom from above, even that divine wisdom, whose price is far above rubies." Miss Jenny then took a little Bible out of her work-bag, and read this verse—*The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.* (1 Cor. ii. 14.)

The little girls then began to discuss different parts of the story of Rosalinda: and Miss Sukey Jennett said, "I am most pleased with that part of the story where the mirror falls to pieces, and where Rosalinda sees her own figure come forward. How surprised," said Miss Sukey, "she must have been! and how little did she think of the tyranny she was about to endure!"

"Why," replied Miss Jenny Peace, "we none of us consider what a tyrant Self is, when it gets the upper hand; otherwise I am sure that we should be more earnest in prayer to be delivered from this enemy, which is indeed more to be feared than any other, because it is not an out-of-doors enemy, but one that is always at home." Miss Jenny then proceeded to point out the many evil passions which spring from selfishness: how it leads persons to seek their own gratification at the expense of all around them—to take offence at the slightest affront—and to indulge a desire of revenge as often as they fancy themselves slighted. "Selfish people," said Miss Jenny, "must always be miserable."

Here Miss Sukey interrupted Miss Jenny, acknowledging that she herself had experienced the truth of that observation through all the former

part of her life : for that she never had known either true pleasure or peace till within the last few days, when Miss Jenny and Mrs. Teachum had led her to seek for divine assistance to conquer her evil and selfish passions, and to subdue that desire which she had generally felt, of revenging herself on those who appeared not to entertain that good opinion of her to which she imagined herself entitled.

Miss Jenny then asked Miss Sukey, if she were willing to take the lead among her companions in favouring them with a relation of her past life ?

She answered, she would do it with all her heart ; and having so many and great faults to confess, she hoped she should at least benefit her companions by setting them an example of honesty and ingenuousness.

The Description of Miss Sukey Jennett.

MISS SUKEY JENNETT, who was next in age to Miss Jenny Peace, was not quite fourteen years old, but so very tall of her age, that she very nearly approached the stature of Miss Jenny Peace ; though by growing so fast, she was much thinner. Her face was naturally handsome, and her complexion fine : but with all this, there was something about her which destroyed entirely the effect of her beauty, insomuch that whoever looked upon her felt distaste rather than admiration. Of which this was the cause—having from early infancy accustomed herself to give way to all her evil passions till they had at length become uncontrollable, *her impatience on the least contradiction, even*

from her superiors, brought such a fierceness into her eyes, which were large and dark, and gave such a degree of discomposure to her whole countenance, as instantly to excite the disapprobation of all beholders. Her general manner too was haughty, and her carriage full of self-confidence ; than which nothing can be more highly unbecoming a sinful creature. But to do Miss Sukey Jennett justice, her eyes, since she had been led to seek the assistance of the Holy Spirit, had lost a great part of their fierceness ; and now, with an endeavour to appear mild and obliging, she began to tell her story.

The Life of Miss Sukey Jennett.

“ My own mamma died when I was so young that I cannot remember her, and my papa married again within half a year of her death. My new mamma took little notice of me, but gave up most of her time to visiting the neighbouring families, and to other amusements.

“ We lived in a large old country-house ; and the room which was appropriated to me was divided from the rest of the family by a long passage or gallery. There I was left year after year under the care of an old servant that had lived many years in the family. I was a great favourite with her, and was, in consequence, allowed my own way in every thing. When I was but four years old, if any thing crossed me, I was taught to beat it by way of revenge, even though it could *not feel*. If I fell down and hurt myself, the very *wound* was to be beaten for hurting the sweet

"I had a little play-fellow in a child of my papa's servants, who was to be entirely my command. This girl I used to beat and whenever I was out of humour ; and when abused her, if she dared to grumble or make the least complaint, I thought it the greatest intemperance in the world ; and instead of altering my behaviour to her on that account, I grew angry that she should dare to dispute my authority : for my governess, that is, the old servant who had the care of me, told her often on hearing, that she was but a poor girl, and was a gentleman's daughter ; so that she ought to give way to me in all things, for that I did me a great honour in playing with her. Thus I began to think that the distance between us was very great, that our feelings could hardly be alike while I myself suffered nothing, I fancied that my punishment was very right ; and it never once came into my head that I could be in the wrong.

"This life I led till I was ten years old ; my stepmother died, and my father's sister came to live with us. My aunt immediately took me from under the care of the old servant, and brought me always with her. She took great pains to instruct me, and procured several masters for my purpose. I was taught to dance, and to hold myself upright, to do fine needle-work, and to *write and read*. I was laced up in tight stays, and *new silk slips* bought for me : my aunt be-

particular in having me neat and genteel in my person. I attended my aunt regularly to church on Sundays and holydays, reading the psalms and lessons every day, and repeating my catechism on Sundays. But notwithstanding all this, I do not think that I became any better than when I lived under my old governess ; for I hated the restraint in which I was kept, and my heart was then overrun with that pride and those evil thoughts, which I have but lately learned to detect and abhor.

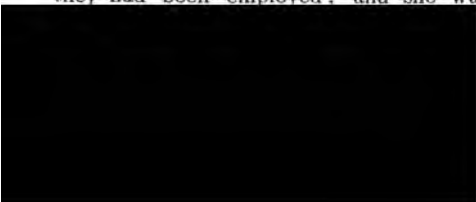
“ After I had been little more than three years with my aunt, she became weary of the trouble I gave her, and I was sent to this school ; where, had it not been for the kind instructions of you, my dear Miss Jenny Peace, and of my governess, I should, no doubt, have gone on from bad to worse. For when I first came here, you cannot imagine how angry I was to find that all my school-fellows thought themselves my equals : so that I was disposed to quarrel, contend, and fight about every thing. Nor should I ever have enjoyed a moment’s ease, unless Mrs. Teachum’s instructions, through the divine blessing, had opened my eyes to the real cause of all the torments I have experienced through life, and discovered to me the only way in which either forgiveness of the past or help for the future is to be obtained. For although,” continued Miss Sukey Jennett, “ I was a constant attendant at church while I was with my aunt, and read my Bible every day, yet I had no just notion whatever of religion ; which I now *more wonder at*, since I find all that has been *taught me here* is so plainly written in the Bible

surprise, my dear Miss Sukey, that you always understand those doctrines of S which now seem so clear to you ; not con that no person can understand these thing out help from above."

Miss Sukey made answer, that she be to be as Miss Jenny had said : " for," co she, " I cannot otherwise imagine, how read my Bible so often when I was living aunt, and go to church so constantly, know nothing of my religion."

" And what you or I know even now, Miss Sukey," replied Miss Jenny, " is ne thing : we are like blind people, whose e just opened ; we as yet can only *see men walking*. Let us therefore continually wisdom from above, to direct us through sent life of sin and danger, to eternal happ the world to come."

Mrs. Teachum being now come into the to observe in what manner her little schola passing their time. they all rose up to do b rence. Miss Jenny then gave her an acco they had been employed : and she wa



hand, and bidding the rest follow, it being her-time, she walked towards the house, attended by the whole company.

Mrs. Teachum had a great inclination to hear history of the lives of all her little scholars ; she feared that her presence at these relations might so far check the speakers, as to prevent a confession of their past faults one to another. Therefore, that she might not be any bar in this way to freedom of speech, and yet might become acquainted with their stories, (which was not in a vain curiosity, but a desire by this means to know their different dispositions,) she called Miss Jenny Peace into her parlour after dinner, and told that she would have her to procure the lives of her companions in writing, and bring them to her ; if so be that the young ladies were not unwilling that she should see them : “ for,” said she, “ I would upon no account wish to see them, if little pupils feel any reluctance in granting me proof of their confidence.”

Miss Jenny readily promised to obey the commands of her governess.

In the evening the little company again met in their charming arbour ; where they were no sooner seated than the cries and sobs of a child at a little distance from the garden disturbed their tranquillity.

Miss Jenny, ever ready to relieve the distressed, ran immediately to the place whence the noise seemed to proceed, and was followed by all her companions : when, at a small distance from Mrs. Teachum’s garden-wall, over which from the top of the young company were able to look down, they saw, under a large spreading tree

part of the heart of which started a
thrust of the tongue, a mulberry woman
and a little girl who seemed to be about
years old, so severely, that it was no wonder
cries had reached their arbour. Miss J
could not help calling out to the woman,
begging her to forbear; while little Polly Suck
cried as much as the girl, and desired that
might not be beaten any more.

The woman then, in respect to them, let
child go, who ran away as fast as she cou
The poor woman then addressing herself to t
young ladies, as they stood looking over the wa
said, "Indeed, my pretty Misses, you don't kno
what a naughty girl this is: for though you hav
seen me correct her in this manner, yet I am i
all respects kind to her, and never strike her bu
for lying. I have tried all means, good and bad,
to break her of this vile fault; but hitherto all I
have done has been in vain, nor can I ever get
one word of truth out of her mouth. I am re-
solved, however, to break her of this horrid cus-
tom: for though I am but a poor woman, yet I
consider it as my bounden duty to breed up my
child to be honest both in word and deed."

"It does not become me," replied Miss Jenny,
"to offer my advice to a person so much older
than myself; but perhaps you will not be offended
at my asking whether you have put your little girl
upon praying against this sin, and seeking assist-
ance from God to enable her to overcome it."

"My dear Miss," answered the poor woman,
"my little girl says her prayers nights and morn-
ings with her brothers and sisters; but I do

know that she ever prays especially against this sin."

"But," said Miss Jenny, kindly, "you should lead her to confess this her grievous offence before God, and instruct her in her religious duties, if you have not hitherto done so; and God will, no doubt, bless your endeavours."

The young ladies then threw down a few halfpence to the poor woman, and returned to their harbour.

On being again seated, Miss Jenny could not help expressing her great detestation of all lying whatsoever: when Miss Dolly Friendly colouring, confessed that she had often been guilty of this fault, though scarcely ever but for the purpose of serving a friend.

Here Miss Jenny interrupting her, said that friendship was no sort of excuse for lying. "If our friends do ill," she said, "we ought to be silent respecting their faults; and indeed it is a duty we owe to every one, not unnecessarily to mention their failings. But true friendship has a view to another world, as well as to the present," added Miss Jenny; "and whoever encourages another to do ill, or upholds him in an evil course, is so far from being the friend of that person, that he may properly be called his worst enemy."

Miss Jenny was proceeding, but on perceiving that Miss Dolly Friendly was covered with confusion, she held out her hand to her, saying, she hoped that Miss Dolly would take this opportunity of obliging them with the history of her past life: which request the young lady made no hesitation to grant, assuring the company that she should

The Description of Miss Dolly Friendly

MISS DOLLY FRIENDLY was just turned two years of age. Her person was neither plain nor handsome. She had generally something quiet or rather indolent in her appearance, except when she was moved by anger, which seldom happened except in defence of some friend or favourite; on which occasions she exhibited fierceness and eagerness which altered her countenance. But her friendships hitherto, though violent, had been liable to frequent changes and interruptions; as is indeed the case of all friendships which are not formed under the control of religion. We may hope however that the affection which Miss Dolly Friendly has lately indulged for Miss Jenny Peace is of that kind which will prove lasting, since it has already, with God's blessing, produced a happy influence upon her conduct.

Miss Dolly Friendly then no sooner understood that it was Miss Jenny Peace's wish that she should relate her history, than she immediately began as follows.

The Life of Miss Dolly Friendly.

"I was bred up till I was nine years of age with a sister who was one year younger than myself. I had a very great love for my sister, and yet I am that I did not make her happy: for I

extremely jealous lest she should like any one as well as she did me, that I was on the constant fret. Sometimes my little sister Molly could do nothing to offend me; her every word and act appeared right in my eyes: and my friendship for her, as I called it, was carried to such a height, that I scrupled no lies to excuse her faults, justifying whatever she did, and thinking it right only because she did it. I was ready to fight all her battles, whether right or wrong, and hated every body that offended her. But in the midst of all this apparent love, I was jealous and uneasy; and made her so too, because I used to think that I did not receive from her a suitable return. And all this time every person that visited at our house was accustomed to speak in high terms of my affectionate conduct towards my sister, filling me with much self-conceit on that account.

“At length my poor little sister grew very sickly, and died. I appeared to mourn very deeply for her; and yet, not long afterwards, so volatile was I that I attached myself to a young lady of my own age, or rather older, who lived next door to us. She was not of a good character; and, being extremely artful, she led me into many great faults, insomuch that my mother shortly insisted upon my giving her up; after which I was not allowed to go out, except in company with my mother. But it was not long before this habit of forming violent attachments became a snare to me again: for my mother having lately hired a *new waiting-maid*, my wandering affections were soon fixed upon her, and to her I went with *complaints* as often as I was controlled or

100
"proportion." She comforted and reassured me, and I
in return confessed to her my mother and the
numerous faults of which she was guilty.

"At length, however, my mother found out this indiscreet intimacy, and sent me hither; where I immediately attached myself to Miss Nancy Spruce: and I should, no doubt, have been the means of leading her into many indiscretions by my foolish affection, had not you, my dear Miss Jenny, given us your good advice, and taught us the necessity of maintaining a more reasonable mode of conduct."

"Give not that honour to me, my dear Miss Dolly," replied Miss Jenny, "but to God: for if I have been enabled to offer you any good advice, it was by the assistance of God, since of ourselves we can do no one good thing."

Miss Dolly Friendly replied, "Indeed, Miss Jenny, I begin to think as you do upon this subject; although, a very little time ago, I should have been exceedingly offended if any one had told me that I was a sinful person, having always looked upon myself as a very good girl."

The bell now summoned our little company to supper, when they all went into the house in a sweet and peaceful state of mind.

Sunday,

The third Day.

ON this blessed day the little society were awakened by the ringing of bells; and being all dressed with neatness, they assembled for prayers in the school-room. The morning was exceedingly fine, and the windows of the school-room being open, the whole room was filled with the fragrant smell of flowers. The little party had already learned from Mrs. Teachum and Miss Jenny Peace, to revere the Lord's-day more than any other, and to consider it as a day of sacred rejoicing, when the usual labours of the week were to be laid aside, and the service of God to be attended upon without interruption.

After breakfast each little Miss took her Bible, for Mrs. Teachum had expressed her desire that nothing other but the book of God should be studied on the Lord's-day; and as each of the children was provided with a Bible, it was very pleasing to see so many little immortal creatures employed in studying the words of everlasting life. When the hour of divine service arrived, Mrs. Teachum seated Miss Polly Suckling before her, while the rest followed, two and two, with perfect regularity to church.

Mrs. Teachum expressed great pleasure in noting that her scholars, notwithstanding their

tender age, behaved with becoming seriousness and decorum at this sacred place.

They went to church again in the same order, and behaved with equal decency in the afternoon : after which, by invitation, the young people all drank tea in Mrs. Teachum's parlour.

The conversation, during tea-time, turned upon religious subjects, which Mrs. Teachum was anxious to render particularly agreeable to the young people.

After tea, the Bible was again produced, and Miss Jenny Peace, as the eldest, was directed to read such parts as Mrs. Teachum thought proper to select.

The Bible is full of beautiful stories, which the more we read, the more interesting they become. This holy book, unlike every other, never wearies the attentive reader, but the more it is studied, the more it delights. And to speak its highest praise, this is the book, which, rightly understood, leads the wandering sinner back to his God, and sets him in the way of everlasting happiness.

Many of these little ones had never till this evening found any real pleasure in listening to the Scriptures ; for till now they had not that preparation of heart which is necessary in order to render the word of God acceptable. But having now, by God's blessing, conceived the wish to do well, they found a pleasure in their religious duties of which they formerly could not even have formed an idea.

At an early hour the little party retired to their sleeping-room, where they enjoyed that sweet and *peaceful repose*, to which the tranquillizing exercises of the Sabbath do naturally lead the way.

Monday,

The fourth Day.

As soon as school was over in the morning, our little company were impatient to go into the harbour, to hear the story which their kind governess had promised them on the Saturday before. But Mrs. Teachum was now obliged to inform them that they must be otherwise employed : for that their writing-master, who lived some miles off, and who had been expected in the afternoon, was just then come in, and begged their attendance, though out of school-time, because he was obliged to be at home again before the afternoon, to meet a person from whom he expected a great favour, and who would be highly disobliged should he not keep his appointment. “ And I know,” said Mrs. Teachum, “ my little dears, you would rather lose your own amusement, than let any one suffer a real inconvenience on your account.”

They all readily complied, and cheerfully went to their writing. So in the afternoon Mrs. Teachum permitted them to leave off work an hour sooner than usual, as a reward for the readiness they had shown to give up their morning amusement : and being met in the harbour, Miss Jenny Peace read to them as follows.

pure religion, and who frequently employed
selves in forming plans for the destruction of
persons in the king's dominions as most emi
devoted themselves to the service of God

Among those against whom the rancor
these wicked persons was particularly ex
were a certain race of poor people who inh
the valleys of Piedmont, a district in the so
France, lying between the Alps and Pyrene

These poor people, called the Wald
having lived for many ages shut out from
world in deep and sequestered valleys, had
preserved among them the purity of the Ch
religion without any mixture of human tradi
while all the surrounding countries were pe
with the errors of popery. They had no i
in their churches; they invoked neither
nor angels; neither did they acknowledg
other mediator than Jesus Christ, nor rely
any other merit than that of his immaculate
eousness and his atoning death. They w

did we not know, from the experience of ages, that the children of this world are always unfriendly to the children of God. Our Lord himself predicted that it should be so—*If the world hate you*, said he, in that last unutterably tender and affectionate discourse which he held with his disciples, *ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love its own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.* (John xv. 18, 19.)

Accordingly therefore, as their master Christ had foretold, the Waldenses were hated by the world, and many plans for their destruction were formed by their enemies. Among other plans, it was proposed that some of the persecuting party should visit the inhabitants of these valleys in disguise, for the purpose of procuring evidence of their treasonable words or practices against church or state, if so be that any of their private words or actions might by any means be so interpreted. Several persons came forward to offer themselves for this horrible service: but he that was most importunate to be thus employed was Albert de la Hauteville, a young man of noble parentage, great address, handsome and accomplished, but utterly destitute of religious or moral feeling. Albert was believed to be best capable of accomplishing the hateful design of the court party, and his services accordingly were accepted in preference to those of every other person.

Albert de la Hauteville having received suitable instructions from his base employers, and being provided with every thing necessary for his jour-

ney, set out without loss of time from Paris. On arriving within a day's journey of the mountains, he there put off his own dress, and assumed that of a peasant of those parts. Then taking a staff in his hand, together with one of the books or confessions of the Waldenses, called *The Noble Lesson*, with a copy of which he had taken care to provide himself, he penetrated on foot into the valleys, endeavouring to make acquaintance with their poor and simple inhabitants, wherever he went. He travelled for some days through scenes of extraordinary beauty, stopping at many houses in his way ; but without seeing or hearing any thing that could be turned to the condemnation of these innocent people.

His first night's lodging was at a cottage on the declivity of a hill. The cottage was so low, and the hill so steep, that the back part of the thatch of the house rested on the side of the hill ; while the front of the cottage overhung a deep dingle, thickly planted with trees, which almost hid from the eye a stream that rushed rapidly along the bottom.

Here lived a very old man and his daughter, who was herself a widow, and not very young. On the traveller's asking for a night's lodging, these poor people received him kindly, supplying him with goat's milk and cakes baked on the hearth. He, in the mean time, pretending to be one of their own way of thinking, led the old man to speak upon religious subjects : and when he believed that he had won his confidence, he ventured to insinuate something against the king and the Roman Catholic doctrines, hoping

raw on his venerable host to utter something, which he might convert to the horrible purpose of journey. But the old man replied, "My son, you really are a sincere child of God, you will be enough to do in your own soul's concerns, without meddling in matters which belong not to you."

Albert de la Hauteville here stood rebuked and humbled before this venerable Christian: he did not look up; deep blushes covered his cheek; and he felt as if the old man could look into his very heart. His confusion however not being perceived, he speedily recovered himself, though without attempting any thing further in place.

The next evening Monsieur de la Hauteville arrived at a cottage in the very deepest recess of the valley, lying between two lofty mountains. The rays of the departing sun had shed a faint glow on their towering summits, when he knocked at the cottage door. He was immediately admitted into a little neat room, where a father and mother, and six smiling children of various ages, were taking their last meal, of which he was invited to partake.

Here again, after supper, this wicked young man endeavoured to discover the real sentiments of the poor inhabitants of the cottage, and, through them, of their neighbours in general, respecting the king and the religion of the Papists. The father of the family, believing his visiter to be one of his own religion and country, advised him to leave these public matters, and to attend to his own spiritual concerns, as a better

in the morning Albert took leave of these people, not in the least softened by their kindness, but rather enraged to find that as yet he had covered no matter of information against the inhabitants of the valleys.

It would make my story too long, were I to describe all the wanderings of this young man among these valleys. Suffice it to say, that in striving to get himself admitted through several of those passes, which they were in the habit of keeping guarded for fear of surprisals from their enemies, he at length arrived at one of the most considerable villages. This village lying at the foot of one of the highest mountains, he resolved to rest there awhile, before he attempted to ascend the mountains; which he was determined to do, meaning to return through the valleys by a different route from that which had conducted him to this spot.

Now, as he remained quiet in this village, soliciting rest of body for a few days before he undertook fresh fatigues, his mind became filled with many uneasy thoughts, among

resolved to continue his journey ; and, for that purpose, sought a guide to conduct him over the mountain.

A guide being obtained, he was advised also to procure a horse, as the passage was long, though not particularly dangerous.

Albert's journey was delayed for some days, owing to the difficulty of procuring him a horse. And even after the arrival of the horse, both the guide and the villagers besought Monsieur de la Hauteville still to defer his journey a little longer, as the present appearance of the mountain portended an approaching tempest, its summit being unusually covered with black clouds, from which frequent flashes of lightning were emitted. The young man's impatience, however, would admit of no further delay ; so, after giving his horse one night's rest, he set out with his guide early the next morning, even before it was light.

Monsieur de la Hauteville, following his guide, had reached a small house at a very considerable height, where refreshments of a coarse kind might be obtained, before the sun arose.

Here they stopped, and here Albert was again advised not to proceed any further at present ; as those who were best acquainted with the appearance of the sky in that part of the country, predicted a tremendous storm. The rash young man, however, would not be advised, but breaking out with a violence which made his simple guide to tremble, he commanded him to lead the way ; while he followed, impiously braving every danger that threatened him.

The travellers continued to ascend the moun

was during the winds of the former part of the day, the guide expressing a hope that, God permitting, they might reach some place of shelter and refreshment on the opposite side of the mountain, before night should come on, and before the lowering storm should break over their heads.

About five o'clock, however, the threatening storm burst upon them with a violence which surpassed all that had been predicted. The wind, roaring and rushing down the valleys, made it almost impossible to stand upon the eminence on which the travellers now found themselves; the rain poured down in torrents, filling the ravines, which but lately had appeared perfectly dry; while the thunder rolled over their heads in one tremendous roar. The sky was at the same time enveloped in a darkness that would have been total, had it not been interrupted by frequent flashes of lightning, which only added horror to the scene, by displaying the deep precipices on one side of the road, and the impending crags on the other.

It is impossible to describe the exasperating effect which the horrors of this scene produced upon the mind of the wicked Hauteville. I forbear to repeat his impious exclamations. His guide entreated him, for the love of God, to dismount and wait patiently till the fury of the storm should be overpast: but, madly determining to proceed, he urged on his horse, saying that the road was surely wide enough for their passage; and using *expressions which I dare not repeat*. So he pushed furiously forwards, in the face of death and eternal destruction.

In the midst of this mad career, a flash of lightning striking a tree on the right hand, drove it suddenly across the road just before La Hauteville's horse, which, springing up on his hind legs, plunged head foremost down a precipice on the left hand.

Albert de la Hauteville for less than a moment felt himself borne up over the immense precipice, but what followed he knew not—a deep sleep, attended with confused dreams, and accompanied with dreadful pains and burning heats, occupied a considerable interval—after which he opened his eyes, and his recollection was restored to him.


He found himself lying on a bed in a very humble but neat apartment. A female of modest and gentle deportment, sat working with her needle by his bedside, from time to time looking at him with a careful and anxious countenance. A venerable man sat by the fireside, with a few old books before him on a small table. There was one window in the room, filled with glass in small compartments, through which nothing could be seen but trees. An outer door stood wide open, admitting the fresh and balmy air, which seemed to bear with it the smell of sweet herbs; and a view of mountains, a few miles distant, was caught through this open door. Many culinary utensils were neatly ranged round this apartment, affording an idea of comfort and cleanliness.

This was the scene which presented itself to the eyes of Monsieur de la Hauteville, while as yet he knew not whether he was still asleep or awaking from a long dream—he felt himself how-

first. As she put the cup down, she said, "God bless it to him." His voice seemed to affect him; he tried to speak but found it impossible; and being unable to do so, he again overcame with a temporary stupor. He remained, he knew not how long, unconscious of what passed. But after awhile, recovering himself again, he opened his eyes to the same scene with this variation, that the bright gilding of the walls then indicated the evening hour.

Looking round him again, he endeavored to recollect himself; and while his mind was engaged, a young man, simply dressed, but of a very beautiful and majestic appearance, entered the house, and, after addressing the inhabitants thereof as his parents, they all three approached the bed, where they stood looking upon the sick person who lay thereon.

The young man, with seeming earnestness, addressed several questions to his parents concerning the state of the sick stranger; and then, in a solemn manner, "God grant to this unhappy person time for repentance! How wonderful are the dealings of the Almighty!" He then



ble of the mercy of God." He then addressed himself to Monsieur Hauteville, and inquired after his health, saying, "Sir, you look better; are you able to speak to us? Fear not—you are surrounded by friends."

Monsieur Hauteville made several ineffectual attempts to speak connectedly; upon which the before mentioned begged that he might be left alone till after she had given him food.

Monsieur de la Hauteville's recovery was slow and much retarded by the anguish of his mind. He perceived from the few words spoken by the man at his bedside, that his character was, if not wholly, known to those very persons, whose care, he doubted not, that his life had been reserved. And now their disinterested kindness to him, their holy deportment, the purity of his discourse, and their strict observation of religious duties, of which he was a daily witness—these were as coals of fire heaped on his head; his mind, as he became gradually convinced of the purity of that religion which could produce so beautiful fruit, was more and more torn with errors of remorse.

These painful feelings his recovery was greatly retarded; and at length when he became able to move, not knowing how to address the persons who were about him, he preserved a mournful and silent silence for a considerable length of time.

In this state of mind the unhappy Hauteville continued, till the young man of whom I before mentioned undertook to expostulate with him. And one day, one afternoon, his father and mother purposely gone out, he thus addressed his

from a world, but I am still bound to, present
 near of the house, and approach an easy
 entry which Athair had that day been removed
 is time that we should enter into an explanat
 every circumstance connected with our unexp
 meeting in this place. My father's name,"
 tinued the young man, "is Eugene Stephens
 is the pastor of a small congregation among
 mountains. My name is Bartholomew ;
 have been brought up with a view, if God pe
 to fill my excellent father's place on earth,
 he shall be removed to a better world. So
 added the young man, "is our history : nor is
 name unknown to us, nor yet the motives
 brought you into these valleys. You bet
 yourself in the delirium caused by that tremen
 fall in which your horse was destroyed. In
 delirium you uttered many words against the
 High ; and the Almighty at that time thoro
 removed the thin mask of hypocrisy which you
 assumed for the deception and ruin of the in
 ants of these valleys.

"Thus the Ruler of all things has stopped
 in the mad career of your crimes ; he has bre
 you down, and laid you low, in order, I tru
 exalt you for ever. You have suffered great

read in your hearing, and we anxiously hope not wholly without effect. If haply you become our friend and a favourer of our religion, you will probably be despised and rejected of men; for *we* are not of the world, and the world loves us not: but in that case God himself will stand forth as your almighty friend, and your everlasting protector—your past offences also will be blotted out by the blood of Christ, who made a full atonement for your sins by offering himself up once for all upon the cross.”

Here the young pastor paused a moment, perceiving that Monsieur Hauteville was greatly affected. His earnest and open manner of address had, with God’s blessing, touched the heart of this unhappy young man, who thus replied: “O my friend!—if such a wretch as I am may presume to address you by that endearing title,—how shall I dare to look up to you or to your respectable parents? or how is it possible for me to hope that such offences as mine can ever be forgiven; committed as they have been, at once, against God, and against those whom I now know to be his persecuted children?”

“The blood of Jesus Christ,” replied the younger Stephens, “cleanseth from all sin. Pray then for those gracious and effectual operations of the Holy Ghost, which alone can illuminate our souls, and lead them fully to rely on the mercy of God, through the merits of Jesus Christ. (*See Confession of Faith of the Waldenses.*)

In reply to this, Monsieur Hauteville broke forth into an agony of grief, representing to Bartholomew the dreadful manner in which he had been

brought up; not only in utter ignorance of religion, but with the most sovereign contempt for it, as well as in the indulgence of every evil passion. "Even," added he, "could my last intended offence against the inhabitants of these valleys—could this grievous crime be forgiven,—my whole life has been spent in sin; my heart is totally depraved, and my habits altogether polluted." Then looking earnestly in the face of his companion, he added, "I have surely passed the utmost limits of mercy."

"Though your sins be red as scarlet," replied the young pastor, "believe in Christ the Saviour, and they shall be white as wool. Know that Christ the Saviour rejects none who apply to him. He is the only true Redeemer and Intercessor; and through his all-prevailing mediation the vilest sinner has free access to the Father. Invoke him therefore with a holy confidence, for he will not reject you. Has he not already testified his tender love towards you, by your late remarkable preservation? Wherefore then should you call in question his further good-will towards you?"

It would take up too much time, were I to repeat all the arguments used by the young pastor of the Vaudois, to induce Albert de la Hauteville to return right humbly unto God: it shall suffice to say, that his arguments were not unattended with a blessing.

When Eugene Stephens and his wife returned, they found Monsieur de la Hauteville still harkening attentively to their son, gazing earnestly on his grave and interesting countenance, and exhibiting marks of the deepest contrition. When he

themselves on each side of Monsieur de la Hauteville, and each of them taking one of his hands, they expressed themselves towards him with all the solicitude of tender parents, beseeching him to have mercy upon his own immortal soul.

But, not to repeat all that passed between Albert de la Hauteville and this pious family, this only shall be added, that before Albert was able to leave the peaceful dwelling of Eugene Stephens, he became fully sensible, through God's blessing, of the wickedness of his former life, and more especially of the heinous nature of the plan which had been formed for the destruction of the holy inhabitants of these valleys; and that he was brought heartily to thank God for the accident by which he had been stopped short in the midst of his detestable undertaking.

The pastor possessed several copies of the Scriptures in the French language, which afforded Monsieur de la Hauteville an opportunity of studying them at his leisure. And being duly prepared for such an exercise, by great affliction both of body and mind, it was rendered peculiarly beneficial to him; insomuch that old things passing away and all things becoming new, he might now have travelled through the valleys without need of guile or concealment. And thus through the all-converting power of the Gospel, the lion was transformed into a lamb.

As soon as Monsieur Hauteville had sufficiently recovered from the effects of his fall, the elder Stephens, one fine evening, led him out to look at *the spot where the accident had taken place.* It was not a hundred yards from the pastor's house

and, and never to his little chapel. In this way
and was the grave of Monseigneur de la Hauteville
himself. The hill had not as yet grown over it.
Immediately above rose the hill, in a precipitous
elevation of many feet, interrupted only by a few
rock-plants. Albert knelt by the grave of his
horse, and, looking up, returned thanks to Al-
mighty God for his wonderful escape. Inconceiv-
able things passed in his mind; but his counte-
nance indicated the strongest feelings of gratitude.
After rising from his knees, he thus addressed him-
self to the venerable pastor, with many tears—
“O thou my more than father! how can I ever
repay the immense debt of gratitude I owe thee!
With God’s help, I will return to Paris, and in
the face of all the enemies of the Vaudois I will
there bear witness to the purity of their lives; after
which I will publicly renounce the Roman Catho-
lic religion, and cast in my lot with the despised
and persecuted of the earth.”

As soon as Albert de la Hauteville was suffi-
ciently recovered to undertake the journey, which
was not indeed for some months after his fall, he
returned to Paris; where God gave him strength
publicly to declare himself the friend of the Vau-
dois, and a convert to their religion: and though
disgrace and persecution followed this avowal, he
was enabled faithfully to persevere in the righteous
course he had chosen, even unto the end.

The last days of Albert de la Hauteville were
spent in a prison in Paris, into which he was
thrown under some false pretence, though, in re-
ality, on account of his religion. In these circum-
stances he evidenced the greatness of his faith,

voicing in tribulation, and looking unto his end with a hope full of immortality; not only satisfied, but thankful that he was counted worthy to suffer shame for his Saviour's sake. And not long before his death, he declared himself abundantly happier in the gloomy recesses of his prison, than he had been when enjoying all the dissolute pleasures of the capital.

Here Miss Jenny ceased reading, when all her hearers sat some little time silent. At length she said, "From this story, my dear companions, you see the power and goodness of God in bringing a sinful young man to the knowledge of himself and of his gracious Saviour. Only imagine what he must have felt, on finding himself in a state so opposite to the house of one of those poor innocent persons, whose ruin he had so artfully endeavoured to compass!" Miss Jenny made several further remarks upon this story, for which she was thanked by her school-fellows: but Miss Lucy Sly was most sensibly touched with the character of the convert, as art and cunning had formerly been the chief characteristics of her own mind. So turning to her companions, she said, if they were not weary at present of their arbour, she would recount to them the history of her life.

The Description of Miss Lucy Sly.

MISS LUCY SLY was of the same age as Miss Emily Friendly, but shorter at least by half the height; and had she not been in the habit of indulging many evil passions, she might have been quite pretty. She had a pair of fine black

"and" but these expressions were pronounced with such an air of indifference, that she was not at all perturbed. It was necessary to be taught that religion acquired greater influence over her, her countenance would become more agreeable. She had a high forehead and very beautiful hair; but the habitual defect of temper noted, had so affected her mouth, as to give an unlovely expression to the lower part of her face.

There is nothing which so much disfigures the face as the indulgence of evil passions: while a countenance expressing the graces of the Spirit is beautiful even in sickness, in old age, in death itself. But to return to Miss Lucy, who with the blessing of God, through the influence of Mrs. Teachum, and Miss Jenny Peace, was enabled in a way to acquire that beauty of holiness, which excels as much as the mere beauty of features and complexion, as the glory of heaven surpasses the twinkling of a candle.

The Life of Miss Lucy Sly.

"FROM the time that I was two years of age," said Miss Lucy, "my mamma was so sickly, she was unable to take care of me herself, in consequence of which I was left to the charge of a governess, who, I suppose, had no religion. I do not know that she ever spoke to me upon religious subject. She did not seem to care what became of me, provided that I gave her no trouble. *she used to sit all day in the room appointed for my use with her feet upon the fender and a book in her hand.* She took no trouble what-

make me good, and yet was very angry if any one found fault with me. And whenever I had done any mischief, she often used to say that it was the footboy, and not Miss, that had done it: nay, she would say it was the dog, or the cat, or any thing she could lay the blame on, rather than own me to be in fault; supposing, I imagine, that some part of the blame falling upon me would attach to herself.

“I was very well pleased at all this, and began soon to think that I could never be in fault, supposing myself indeed to be a very good girl: so that I was very much surprised when I heard you, Miss Jenny, and my governess, speak of me as being a sinner; and I must own that I was at first much offended at it. But to return to my story.

“All this time, while I thought myself so good a girl, I constantly told lies, and laid all my faults, on others. I remember once, when I had broken a fine china cup, that I artfully got out of the scrape, by hiding the cup in the footboy’s room, which brought upon him a severe correction. I felt however neither shame nor remorse on this account; and indeed I had almost forgotten it, till I came here and received better instruction. But since that time I have seen my past life in a very different point of view, and do feel myself at present to be a very great sinner.”

“This custom of endeavouring to deceive,” continued Miss Lucy Sly, “I led till I came to school; where I soon discovered that I could not so well carry on my wicked schemes; since our good governess was not so easy to be imposed upon as my relations at home. Neither would any of my

man I drove out of my punished wrong for my sake, so the poor footboy had suffered only harm. 'These things at first made me angry indeed; though I now wonder at myself herein. This is all I know of my life hitherto, and I am truly sorry and ashamed that I have not a better account of myself to lay before you.'

Thus ended Miss Lucy Sly; when Miss Peace said, "My dear friend, you have cause to give thanks to Almighty God, who has produced in you the first blessed work of the Holy Spirit, in giving you a sense of the great wickedness of your past life. We are naturally disposed to sin, and our consciences are so dull and hard that we go on committing the most grievous offences without being in the least sensible of them. When the sweet influences of the Holy Spirit enter the heart, we then become sensible of our sins, our consciences are made tender and we are enabled both before God and our fellow-creatures. I doubt not, my dear Miss Lucy, that you are sincerely grieved to think of your injustice to the poor footboy, and that you are anxious by some way or other, to make up for your evil treatment of him."

"Indeed," replied Miss Lucy, "I would

her eyes : but, after a moment's hesitation, she said, " I will, Miss Jenny, with God's help, follow your advice ; although, I own, it will put me to extraordinary pain. I thank God I see my duty, and I will pray for help to perform it."

Miss Jenny put her arms round Miss Lucy's neck, and kissed her tenderly, while they mingled their tears together. All the rest of the little party were much affected with this proof of true penitence ; and they were still shedding tears of joy when the bell summoned them to supper : soon after which they retired to rest.

Tuesday,

The fifth Day.

Our little company, as soon as the morning school-hours were over, hastened to their apartments, attentively expecting what Miss Jenny Peace would propose to them for their amusement till dinner time; when Miss Jenny taking out of her pocket a little gilt book, said, if they pleased, she would read them another short story, which, if they had not met with before, she had no doubt would afford them pleasure.

They all eagerly asked the title of the story, which Miss Jenny replied, "It is the history of a hard-hearted little girl."

The young ladies all assured Miss Jenny they had never heard of the book before; upon which she immediately began to read.

The History of Miss Fanny; or, the hard-hearted little Girl.

In a small sea-port town, or rather village in the north-west of England, there formerly lived a very respectable widow lady, named Hill, who having two daughters, endeavoured to bring them up in the fear of God, and in useful habits.

The eldest of these was married while young

a gentleman of the name of King, and was so unfortunate as in a very few years to lose her husband and two sons. One little girl only remained to her, with whom she returned to her mother's house, devoting the remainder of her days to the service of her God, to her aged mother, and to this little daughter, who was still in a state of infancy on her father's removal. What time this excellent woman could spare from these her first duties, she consecrated to the poor : and thus happily employing her hours, she found that consolation, which the active performance of duty seldom fails to afford in affliction.

The name of Mrs. King's little daughter was Anna ; and the discreet manner in which she was educated soon showed itself in her gentle and amiable deportment, as well as in the sweet expression of her countenance.

Mrs. Hill's second daughter was married a few years after her sister to the captain of a merchant vessel, whose family resided in the same village : a man of rough manners, and not altogether pleasing to the old lady : but as her daughter's mind was set upon the connexion, Mrs. Hill had not thought it right to control her inclinations any further than by expressing her disapprobation, and giving her reasons for so doing. And this indeed ought to have been sufficient to make the young lady hesitate, if not entirely to lay aside all thoughts of the marriage.

The captain's name was Saunders. He possessed a handsome house in the village, not far from Mrs. Hill's neat little dwelling ; and as he was frequently from home for months together, it might

panion for her, had they been educated upon same plan. But whereas Anna was brought up as we before said, in the most unexceptionable manner; little Fanny Saunders was seldom subjected to any control: in consequence of which she became from day to day more selfish and more obstinate. For such is the depravity of our nature, that it is not sufficient to remove children from the view of actual evil; but they must be persuaded and compelled to do well by every inducement that can be held forth to them for that purpose.

We may suppose that Mrs. Hill, when she saw the difference between her two little grandchildren, did not spare expostulation with her younger daughter on the occasion; neither can we believe that Mrs. King, who was so very anxious to bring up her own child properly, could refrain from speaking freely to her sister upon the subject. But whatever arguments they might use, they produced no effect upon the conduct of Mrs. Sa-

means appointed by God must be employed, in order to secure so desirable an end. And though the best means which we can use," this pious old lady would add, "must of themselves fall far short of the proposed end ; since no parent can so far change the heart of a child, as to inspire it either with divine love or with self-abhorrence ; the parent is nevertheless bound to do all in his power to effect this mighty work, looking up in faith for the blessing of God on his endeavours."

The only effect which Mrs. Hill's expostulations produced upon her daughter was this, that instead of controlling Fanny, she endeavoured to hide the child's faults from its grandmother and aunt : and, in consequence, she seldom brought her to see them, or to play with her cousin. But when she herself visited the old lady, she generally left Fanny with the servants, who, in order to please their mistress, allowed the child every possible indulgence ; thus fostering and confirming all those evil habits which, in better company, would at least have been weakened, if not overcome. Thus do over fond parents, in ways innumerable, promote the ruin of their children.

In this manner Fanny and Anna attained each her eighth year, for there were only a few months difference in their ages, Fanny being the elder. At this time Mrs. Hill, who was very old, began rapidly to decay ; and at length, taking entirely to her bed, her physicians declared it as their opinion that she could not live many weeks.

Captain Saunders being at this time from home, Mrs. Saunders, anxious to assist her sister in attending on their sick parent, became for a season

an amiable young mother. Laura accompanied her little daughter. And now the children between the two children, who were brought finally together, (both bearing the same regard to the dying person,) was made strikingly apparent even to the most common observer, who hardly fail to mark in little Anna the lovely fruit of a pious education.

While the poor old lady lay on her death-bed, this amiable child of her own accord put away her dolls and playthings, not allowing herself to touch one of them. And instead of running up and down stairs, as she had been accustomed to do, she crept about the room like a little mouse, never speaking but in a whisper. If she had any thing more than ordinary given her to eat, she would carry it softly to her grandmother's bed-side, and place it on the little table by her head. And when the servants or nurses were called, she could be trusted to sit in the room and watch her grandmamma; never expressing any weariness, if this kind of attention was required of her for hours together. A thousand little tokens of her regard she showed her dying grandmother, which cannot here be mentioned; not performed in a bustling or ostentatious manner, as if she were doing some very great work, but with an anxious consciousness that she was doing no more than her duty. And indeed how can any child, even the best of children, ever sufficiently repay

religious education to soften the heart and refine feelings, would have said that Anna was naturally a very tender-hearted little girl, and Fanny a very hard-hearted one ; a remark that was indeed actually made both by the servants and other casual observers. But such remarks are contrary to the general tenor of Scripture, which describes the heart of man as naturally producing good things, asserting that *as in water face answereth to face, so the heart of man to man.* (Prov. xxvii. 19.) Accordingly, we may venture to assert, that the difference between the two sins was not a natural one, but the effect of the grace operating upon the heart.

While her grandmamma lay in a dying state, my never put any restraint whatever upon her ; nor indeed seemed to think such self-denial at all necessary. She ran up and down stairs, piping and singing, or swinging down the banisters, as usual ; and if dismissed from the parlour, her loud voice continually disturbed the old nurse, whose bed-room was on the same floor, she would go and romp in the kitchen. And so far from denying herself any delicate morsel which she thought might be gratifying to her grandmother, that if she saw any jelly or other thing prepared for the poor sick person, she would, if she had an opportunity, take part of it ; or indeed the whole, if not interrupted. It was impossible for Mrs. King to see all this behaviour of her niece, without speaking to her sister upon the subject ; although she had communicated with Mrs. Saunders so often in various respects, as to the state of her child, as to leave her

little hope of saying anything that might be successful.

"Do not, my dear sister," she one day said, "allow your beloved child to indulge herself in such unfeeling habits."

"Unfeeling!" retorted Mrs. Saunders; "do not use so harsh a word, sister. The child is only giddy and thoughtless; she does not mean to be unfeeling."

"My dear sister," answered Mrs. King, "whether we hurt a fellow-creature from thoughtlessness or from intention, it comes to much the same thing, as far as the injured person is concerned. But what is the thoughtlessness you speak of, but want of feeling? All children naturally want feeling; and they should be made to feel, and to suffer punishment, whenever they transgress in these points."

"Sister," returned Mrs. Saunders, "you do not consider that Fanny is but a child."

"This therefore is the special season for making her what you wish," replied Mrs. King; "now is your time, with God's help, to bend her will."

"Sister," answered Mrs. Saunders, "I cannot see these things in the serious light in which you consider them."

"But you will see them so hereafter, my dear sister," replied Mrs. King; "and God grant you may not also feel, in your own case, that you have done wrong in allowing your child to act thus unfeelingly." Mrs. King would have said more; but perceiving that her sister's anger was rising, *she thought it better to refrain.*

After a few days' illness, poor Mrs. Hill died.

Her spirit departed during the night; and on the following morning when the family assembled in the breakfast-room, most of them appeared to be solemnly impressed with the scene which they had witnessed. The little girls had not been present when the old lady died, but they had both been informed of the event; and when they came down to breakfast, Anna's eyes were swelled with crying. She endeavoured however to appear composed, observing that her mamma tried to do the same.

Breakfast was brought in, and the family sat down round the table; but neither of the elder ladies seemed inclined to eat. Little Anna had been used to breakfast on milk, and for some few years it had been her custom to skim the cream from her basin of milk, and put it into a little cream-jug, which belonged to her doll's tea-equipage, for her grandmamma's use. From the force of habit she this day, as usual, began to skim the milk; when suddenly recollecting herself, she burst into such an agony of tears, as quite alarmed her mamma. "My dear," said Mrs. King, "what is the matter? do endeavour to compose yourself. Recollect your dear grandmamma is happy, happier than she was yesterday—her troubles are now all over. She is assuredly happy, because she knew that her Redeemer was mighty, and she trusted her cause in his hands." (*Prov. xxiii. 11.*)

"But Oh, mamma!" said Anna, leaving the table, and putting her arms round her mother's neck, "I cannot help crying. Pray, forgive me; I tried not to do it."

Mrs. King made her little girl in her lap, and as some moments continued, a struggle took place with those of the moral, mother could Mrs. Saunders refrain from weeping at this scene. But in the mean time Fanny continued to eat her breakfast as if nothing affecting had happened, and even availed herself of the general confusion to help herself to what she liked best at the table.

Lest however I should lengthen this story beyond the limits of a book within the reach of a little one's purse, I shall not enter into every particular of the children's behaviour, either during the interval, or at the funeral: suffice it to say, that from first to last Anna behaved with the same unobtrusive tenderness, and Fanny with the same thoughtless insensibility.

After the funeral, Mrs. Saunders returned to her own house, leaving Mrs. King with her dear little daughter in the dwelling of her departed mother. And from that time Mrs. King devoted herself entirely to the education of Anna, who improved from year to year, continually becoming more and more dear to her mother.

In the mean time Mrs. Saunders and Fanny went on in their old way. Fanny grew older, but there was no improvement observable in her character; she was the same giddy, thoughtless, selfish girl at twelve years of age, as she had been at seven, still experiencing the same indiscreet and cruel indulgence from her mother.

Mrs. King had long ceased to expostulate with her sister, but she never ceased to pray for her. *This duty she performed daily; and whenever she had an opportunity of being alone with her*

niece, she reminded her, that her mother's fondness was far from being an excuse for her unfeeling and careless conduct. She represented to her, that she was now of an age to discern between good and evil, and that God would certainly take account of her behaviour towards her indulgent parent. Fanny however paid no attention to her aunt, but rather avoided her society, as well as that of her cousin.

At length the time of Fanny's punishment arrived. Mrs. Saunders suddenly fell into a very bad state of health, and became so helpless, as to require the most constant and tender attention. Her husband was seldom at home, and she soon found it a vain thing to expect any comfort from her daughter. On this occasion she remembered with anguish the scenes which had taken place at her own mother's death, and bitterly repented having indulged her child at such a time in that unfeeling thoughtlessness, which had now settled into a habit of decided cruelty. She was unwilling to apply for help to her sister, because she had for some years past neglected that dear relative, or at least treated her with great coldness. Mrs. King however no sooner understood the situation of Mrs. Saunders, than she came to offer her own services, and those of her daughter; both of which the poor sick woman most gladly accepted.

And now when Mrs. Saunders came to find in her niece not only a sweet companion, but a patient and gentle nurse, and one in whom she could entirely confide, she became more deeply sensible of the blameable part she had acted to-

it to her mother's low spirits proceeding from her disease ; and this made her more anxious than ever to avoid the sick chamber.

It is not easy to describe poor Mrs. Saunders's feelings on being thus wholly neglected by her daughter ; it may be sufficient to say, that the anguish of her mind was supposed very materially to hasten her death. She died deeply lamenting the indiscretion of her conduct towards her child, and humbly imploring forgiveness for this and all her sins, through her Saviour's merits. Her last days on earth were full of bitterness ; yet we trust there was hope in her end, since she died self-condemned, and relying alone upon an all-powerful Redeemer. Her husband returned home only a few hours before her departure ; yet in time to receive her last request, which was, that he would place their daughter entirely under the charge of her sister.

Mrs. King who was present when her dying sister made this her last request, and who took that occasion to assure the captain of her perfect willingness to undertake the charge of his daugh-

of feeling. She did not therefore quite betray the hardness of her heart, on this occasion, to any one except her aunt, who was too quick-sighted to be deceived by the slight appearance of sorrow which she endeavoured to assume.

As soon as the funeral was over, Mrs. King prepared to return to her own house ; and as the captain was going on another voyage, she took this opportunity of telling him that she was now ready to receive her dear sister's child into her family.

In answer to this, he replied, that he himself had a sister living at Canterbury, who was a widow, and who had a large fortune at her own disposal : that she had offered to take Fanny ; and that as he himself had not much to give her, he thought he should be injuring his daughter's prospects very much if he rejected his sister's offer.

Mrs. King answered, that she hoped he would not on this occasion consider fortune only, but also consult the good of his child in other points of view, and not trust her to the care of his sister, unless he thought her a person capable of directing and improving a young girl.

To this he answered, that he desired to be left to the management of his own affairs, that his mind was made up on the subject, and that he intended to take his daughter with him into the south when he made his next voyage.

Mrs. King was much hurt, having formerly known this sister of Captain Saunders, who was at that time remarkable for nothing but an exceedingly violent temper, by which, when living in her father's house, she had rendered herself universally disagreeable. She found it however

in vain to argue the point with the captain. So in a few days she was obliged to take leave of her niece, who accompanied her father on board his ship, and landed with him, after a short voyage, at Gravesend, which is on the river Thames, a little below London ; from whence passing over land to Canterbury, she was put under the charge of her father's sister.

After the departure of Fanny and her father, Mrs. King returned with her daughter to her own small house, in which she continued to live till her daughter's marriage, which took place when Anna was four-and-twenty years of age.

The person who married Miss King was a young and pious clergyman, whose affectionate regards had been excited and fixed by the amiable qualities of Anna ; for indeed her fortune was very small, and she possessed but a moderate share of any other kind of beauty, except that which proceeds from a lovely mind inhabiting a young and healthy body. This worthy gentleman insisted upon Mrs. King's leaving her small house, and becoming an inmate of theirs ; where this happy little family continued to dwell together in the utmost harmony, till separated by death.

Mrs. King lived to see herself the grandmother of four children, two boys and as many girls, in the care and education of whom she was, by God's blessing, enabled to take an active part for many years.

In the meantime Fanny, being placed under the care of her aunt, Mrs. Boswell, at Canterbury, began to feel what it was to be subject to the violence and caprices of an ill-tempered, and irreligious wo-

man. She at first endeavoured to repel ill-humour by carelessness and the same kind of obstinacy which she had shown towards her too indulgent mother : but Mrs. Boswell soon let her know, that this kind of conduct would not do with her. Mrs. Boswell would not only be obeyed, but humoured in every whim ; and Fanny could scarcely obtain the common necessities of life without showing her the utmost submission. Fanny complained, by letter, to her father ; but she received, in answer, a command to submit implicitly to her aunt's will : for looking forward to Mrs. Boswell's large fortune, Captain Saunders felt that every thing else ought to give way to so important a consideration.

Thus left without resource, Fanny became a complete slave to her capricious aunt, who used to keep her all the morning labouring with her needle, and employed her all the evening to make a fourth at the card-table, at which Mrs. Boswell regularly spent the last four or five hours of the day. Fanny was never allowed to walk out, excepting with Mrs. Boswell, who once or twice in a month spent a whole morning in paying visits among her old neighbours ; on which occasions Fanny was never suffered to speak. In addition to these employments, Fanny was required to attend Mrs. Boswell's parrot, to comb and wash the lap-dog, to feed the cats, and to hear all the tittle-tattle and scandal of the town.

In this dull manner year passed after year, without improvement and without pleasure, while Fanny's health and spirits were visibly on the decline : and though she did not dare, as formerly to give open indulgence to her ill-humour, yet

she have called back the days that were past, being utterly destitute of religious principles, sorrow did not work for her good. She considered herself as injured and miserable, but it entered into her head that she was also sinful, that the afflictions which she then endured, were the just punishment of her former undutiful behaviour. Neither did it occur to her, (or it never thought ever presented itself, it was immediately rejected,) that if she now suffered, it was for good, and in order that she might be eternally benefitted. She had never been taught this consolatory piece of knowledge—that *God does not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men; but though he cause grief, yet will he have compassion according to the multitude of mercies.* She therefore gave not her cheek to that smote her, neither was full of self-reproach (Lament. iii.) Accordingly, instead of profit by her afflictions, they produced upon her no other than an irritating effect.

In this state she continued till she had nearly reached the age of thirty; when her father, leaving her only a few hundred pounds, which was all the property he possessed at his death. She had now reached that time of life when people who have little or no religion begin to think less of the value of money than they do in earlier days. And as Mrs. Boswell was then very young, she thought that, after having suffered so

from her for so many years, it might be prudent to hold out a little longer in order to secure the possession of her fortune : fully assured that, if she should discover the least disposition to leave her, *that prospect* could never be realized.

Agreeably to this idea, after her father's death, Fanny still continued to live with Mrs. Boswell, and to bear with all her whims ; which, as she grew older and more infirm, became more and more intolerable. Contrary however to Fanny's expectation, Mrs. Boswell outlived Captain Saunders ten years ; so that Fanny was nearly forty years of age when she died.

Instead however of leaving her large fortune to Fanny as she had always given her reason to expect, on opening the old lady's will, it was found that she had left every thing to certain distant relations of her husband, excepting two hundred pounds, which with her old clothes were bequeathed to Fanny.

This bitter disappointment was almost more than Fanny could bear, since her heart was now wholly set upon money. She collected therefore her little property together, and retiring to a small lodging in a dark old street of Canterbury, where none of her former acquaintance were likely to meet with her, she spent the remainder of life in lamenting and mourning over her disappointment ; her only amusement being that of playing at cards with some old persons of humble fortune who lodged in the same house.

Even in this situation, poor and unknown as she was, Fanny might still have been happy, had she turned her thoughts from herself and her own fo-

last hours. Her own troubles, her own pointinents, her own health, her own life and pains, in short, all and every thing to herself, was of the first importance her own concerns left no room in her head for the concerns either of God or her neighbour.

Mrs. King had died about the time Boswell's death : but her daughter Ann was unmindful of her cousin. On hearing of the appointment, she wrote kindly to her, that she would come and spend her days with her, promising to assist her by every means in her power, and sending her five guineas at that time to pay for her journey. But Fanny she did not refuse to receive the money, notwithstanding some secret suspicion that she would triumph over her in her fallen state, and her friendly invitation. And thus she continued herself to finish her days among strangers, no one loved or cared for her.

could be found, even in the bosom of him who bore our griefs and carried our sorrows. But poor Fanny, instead of paying any heed to Anna's counsels, took her kind letters rather as so many insulting proofs of her cousin's fancied superiority : and so deeply rooted were her feelings of this kind, that nothing could eradicate them.

In this manner her life passed away without satisfaction ; till, as she had lived only for herself, she died, at an advanced age, unlamented by any human creature. Thus Fanny closed her wretched days, an awful example to all those who through life are in the habit of considering Self only : for Self is a miserable comforter and a weak support at that hour, when nature sinks under the weight of its own infirmities, and when all the merit of man's very best actions must be cast away as filthy rags, in which the saint dares not appear before a pure and holy God.

When Miss Jenny had ceased reading, Miss Patty Locket remarked, that she had never till lately been taught that loving Self was a sin. " I always supposed," said she, " that every body loved themselves, and preferred themselves to all the world beside ; and that as it was natural so to do, there could be no harm in it."

" Why, my dear," replied Miss Jenny, " we do, as you say, naturally love ourselves, and seek to promote our own pleasure at the expense of every one else : but we are taught by the Holy Spirit of God, that many things which proceed out of the heart of the natural man are grossly wicked, and *that the heart itself must be changed before we can enter into the kingdom of heaven.* Religi

we may indeed admire at a distance, but perfectly imitate. And it is very certain Miss Patty, that those persons who are be thought of little consequence in th while they are truly anxious to do good are abundantly the most happy."

"Indeed," replied Miss Patty Lockett, "I believe what you say to be very true, Miss Jenny, for since I have ceased to think so much of myself as I used to do, and have endeavoured with God's help, to love my school-fellows and to make them happy, I have found myself more contented than I formerly was."

In answer to this remark, Miss Jenny replied, "Miss Patty, if it was not disagreeable to you, as it was now her turn, to relate what she could remember of her past life; with which request Miss Patty instantly complied.

The Description of Miss Patty Lockett

the human face so entirely as the indulgence of any evil passion. Agreeably to this observation, since her mind had been better regulated, Miss Patty Locket had acquired a composure of manner and countenance which was extremely pleasing: and as she was fair, healthy, and sprightly, no one could look upon her now without satisfaction; whereas, formerly she had been generally considered as a sulky, disagreeable girl.

Such was Miss Patty Locket, who was now to give a relation of her past life, which she did in the following manner.

The Life of Miss Patty Locket.

"I LIVED till I was six years of age in a very large family, having four sisters and three brothers, all older than myself. We played together, and passed our time much in the common way; sometimes quarrelling, and sometimes agreeing, just as chance would have it. Our parents showed no particular partiality to any of us, so that we had no cause to envy one another on that account: but while we lived tolerably well together, I cannot say that any thing like real love existed among us; nor indeed at that time had I any just notion of such a state.

"When I was six years old, my grandmother by my father's side, who was also my godmother, offering to take me to live with her, and promising to look upon me as her own child, and entirely to provide for me, my father and mother, considering their large family, very readily accepted her offer, and sent me directly to her house.

four years older than myself ; and her poor :
had taken such pains with her education, t
understood more than most girls of her ag
addition to which, she possessed so much
ness, good-humour, and cleverness, that
body became fond of her ; insomuch that w
I went out in company with her, while ev
noticed my cousin, I was totally disregard

“ Though I had all my life before lived
mily where every one in it was older and c
consequence than myself, yet I never rem
while in my father’s house, being much t
with jealous or envious thoughts ; for bein
rally together in the nursery, nobody too
notice of any of us, or praised one of u
than another. But now, living in the hou
only one companion, who was so much n
mired than myself, this marked distinction
not only to vex me, but even to excite a
hatred and aversion in my mind towards m
sin ; while I never thought of blaming m

nor have refused to learn those things from her which she kindly offered to teach me, if it had not been for Betty, the maid who dressed us. She used to be continually talking to me about the preference which was given to my cousin, and would often say 'I wonder, Miss Patty, how you can bear to see Miss Molly so much preferred before you! and how you can bear to be taught by her! Why, she is almost as much of a child as you are.'

"This discourse of the servant's so much increased my discontent, that I used to say to my cousin, when she offered to teach me, that I was not put under her care, but under that of my grandmother; not considering that my poor grandmother was too old and infirm to do much towards my education, although she took care that I should want neither food nor clothes.

"In this manner I lived, fretting and vexing, and depriving myself, by my ill-temper, of all means of improvement; till at length my grandmother was advised to send me to school. But though I left my cousin, I did not leave my wicked heart behind me. My ill-temper followed me even to this place, and I should surely have been as miserable here as I was at my grandmother's, if my kind governess, and you, Miss Jenny, had not taken pains to show me the wickedness of my heart; and had I not been led, by God's mercy, to seek help from the Holy Spirit to overcome my wicked tempers."

Here Miss Patty Locket ceased, and the dinner-bell called them from the arbour.

After they had dined, Mrs. Teachum told them, she thought it proper that they should use some

be permitted, after school, to take a walk to the dairy house, to eat curds and cream.

Mrs. Teachum not only granted their request, but said she would dispense with their school-tendance that afternoon, in order to give more time for their walk, which would extend between two and three miles ; she likewise said that she herself would accompany them.

At this they all flew like lightning to get themselves ready for their walk, and soon with joyful countenances attended Mrs. Teachum to the school-room.

This good gentlewoman was so far from being under any restraint in their walk in her presence, that she encouraged them to run in the fields, and to gather flowers ; which they accordingly did, each little Miss trying to get the sweetest flower to present to her governess.

In an agreeable manner, they arrived at the dairy before they imagined they had walked a mile.

There lived at this dairy-house an old

and Miss Polly Suckling was so silly as to ask her why she shook her head so, and what made her hair so white.

Miss Jenny Peace hearing this, and being afraid lest they should say something which might offend the old lady, begged them not to talk so fast.

“O! let the dear rogues alone,” said the old woman, “I like their prattle:” and, taking Miss Polly by the hand, she added, “Come, my dear, we will go to the dairy, and skim the milk.” At these words they all ran into the dairy, and being in high spirits, some of them were so rude as to dip their fingers in the cream; which when Mrs. Nelly perceived, who was the eldest daughter of the old woman, and managed all the affairs of the dairy, she requested them all to walk out of the dairy, saying, that she would bring them what was fit for them: upon which, Miss Dolly Friendly reddened with anger, and was going to answer; but Miss Jenny Peace checked her.

The old woman now caused the little company to sit down at a long table, which she soon supplied with plenty of cream, strawberries, brown bread, and sugar.

Mrs. Teachum took her place at the upper end of the table, while the young people sat down in their usual order, to partake of the good things provided for them; being first reminded by their excellent governess to give thanks. After which Mrs. Teachum told them that they might walk into the garden and orchard; when it would be time to return home.

The good old woman showed them the

expressed much pleasure in having seen so well-behaved young ladies, and said she that they would often repeat their visit.

These little friends had not walked far in way home before they met a miserable man, who begged their charity. The little immediately gathered about this poor creature and were hearkening with great compassion his story, when Mrs. Teachum came up to them who was not a little pleased to perceive all scholars with their hands in their pockets, while they speedily distributed some sixpences and several half-pence. She took occasion however to point out to them, after the poor man was gone, that in general alms were more usefully bestowed upon such poor persons as live in neighbourhood, and are known, than upon those who go begging about the country.

The little party got home about nine o'clock, but, late as it was, they did not forget to render thanks to the Giver of all good things for

Wednesday.

The sixth Day.

THIS morning the little society were so entirely engaged with their school-duties and their masters, that they had no opportunity of assembling in the beloved arbour before dinner : and after school-hours in the afternoon, two young ladies, Lady Caroline and Lady Fanny Delun, who had formerly known Miss Jenny Peace, and who were at present in that neighbourhood, came to make her a visit.

Lady Caroline was sixteen years of age, tall and genteel in her person, of a fair complexion, and possessing a regular set of features ; so that upon the whole she was generally complimented as being very handsome : but her sister, Lady Fanny, had not the least pretensions to beauty.

It was but lately that their father had, by the death of a distant relation, become Earl of Delun ; so that they had not long been addressed by the title usually given to noblemen's daughters.

Miss Jenny Peace received them as old acquaintance : not neglecting however the respect due to their quality. The young ladies drank tea with Miss Jenny in Mrs. Teachum's parlour. After which Mrs. Teachum allowed Miss Jenny to introduce her school-fellows to her visitors ; on which occasion all her little companions were

ed thick with gold, adorned with brilliant
and the finest Mechlin lace, addressed in
her discourse to her sister, in order that she
have an opportunity of frequently repeating
title. And as she spoke, her fingers were
in perpetual motion, either adjusting her tuck
or ranging the plaits of her robe, or playing
with the diamond cross that hung on her bosom ; but
still accompanying her fingers as they moved
being now and then suddenly snatched off
she might not be observed to think of her
yet, in spite of all her artifice, it was plain
her thoughts were wholly occupied by that
her new title.

Lady Fanny's dress was plain and neat, and
she seem to think at all about either *that*
title ; but her manner was nevertheless so affec-
tate and her eyes were so often turned towards a
looking-glass which unfortunately happened to
be opposite to her, that she betrayed to every
discerning observer, the vanity of thinking her
beauty and admiring herself for being great.

The little society, as soon as they were released, retired to the arbour ; where, without ceremony, two or three of the elder young ladies began to make their remarks on the ridiculous vanity of their noble visitors. Miss Jenny allowed them to proceed for some minutes, being at a loss, as the strangers were her acquaintance, how to word her reproof, so as not herself to appear personally offended. But at length, recovering her presence of mind, " My dear school-fellows," she said, " although I do not attempt to defend what is amiss in the young ladies who have just left us ; yet I cannot but say, that I think we are doing wrong to attack them in their absence with so little reserve. If we have seen any thing faulty in their deportment, let us endeavour to profit by it in examining whether we ourselves may not have our share of pride and vanity, although, from being in lower circumstances, or not having the same personal accomplishments, we may not be tempted to make such a display of our qualifications."

Those of the young people who had been most forward in ridiculing Lady Caroline and Lady Fanny, made Miss Jenny Peace no answer, but blushing deeply, remained silent. Miss Nancy Spruce however said, that she felt herself particularly blameable in joining the general laugh against the strangers, since she could very well remember the time, when, without either the fortune or title of Lady Caroline to support her pretensions, she had assumed as many airs of superiority as that young lady had done. Being then requested by all her companions to relate the history of her life, she entered upon it without hesitation.

MISS NANCY SPRUCE WAS JUST TEN YEARS OLD, and was the very reverse of Patty Locket in all things ; for she had small limbs, small features, and such a correctness of form, that she was often called the little fairy. She had the misfortune however to be lame in one of her hips ; though by good management and a certain briskness in her carriage, that blemish was scarcely apparent, looking more like a peculiarity of gait than any real defect.

The Life of Miss Nancy Spruce.

“ My delight,” said Miss Nancy Spruce, “ ever since I can remember, has been in dress and linery ; and partly perhaps from this cause—because whenever I did as I was bidden, I was promised fine coats, ribands, and lace caps ; and when I was stubborn and naughty, then my fine things were all locked up, and I was allowed to wear only an old stuff coat : so that I was led to imagine that the only proper reward for good behaviour, was to be dressed fine ; while the only suitable punishment for the contrary, was to be

in the parish used to take it as a great honour to play with me : on which occasions I delighted to show them my fine things, and to compare their plain stuff coats with my silk and embroidered ones. However, as they never pretended to any sort of equality with me, I at least did not hate them, though I was far enough from being kind to them. But when I came to school, and saw all my little companions as fine as myself, I grew very miserable. Every handsome coat, every silver ribbon, every gauze cap, every artificial flower which my school-fellows wore, made me unhappy. Your scarlet damask, Miss Betty Ford, cost me a whole day's pain, and I even cried with vexation the first time I saw you in it. I could tell you many more thoughts of this kind which I had, and which, since I have been led into some acquaintance with myself, I am truly ashamed of. But now I try never to think either of other people's clothes or of my own, any further than to keep myself neat : and I am already much happier on this account, although I must confess that I am still often in danger of falling into my former fault."

As soon as Miss Nancy Spruce had finished speaking, Miss Betty Ford said, that she heartily forgave Miss Nancy for any evil thoughts she might have had about her scarlet coat ; "for," added she, "whatever your faults may have been, Miss Nancy, I am sure that mine have equalled them at least, if they have not been much worse. And now to prove that what I say is true, I will, if Miss Jenny pleases, give some account of my past life."

The description of Miss Betty Ford.

MISS BETTY FORD was of the same age as Miss Nancy Spruce, and much of the same size ; but there was nothing naturally pretty or pleasing in her person. Her face was ill shaped and broad, and all the summer she was generally full of freckles ; however, when she looked good-humoured, which she now began habitually to do, there was nothing in her by any means disagreeable : for however plain a face may be, it is the smile of the heart only which can render any set of features really unpleasant.

The Life of Miss Betty Ford.

" I HAD the misfortune to lose my mamma," said Miss Betty Ford, " before I can remember, and the children of our family were brought up by an elderly relation of my mother's, who kept the house. As Miss Nancy Spruce's mind was

And then she would find fault with my features and my complexion, expressing herself as if it was the greatest misfortune in the world not to be handsome.

“I had an elder sister whose face, however, pleased her better; and indeed she was *very pretty*, which I could not but observe, although it cut me to the heart to acknowledge it. She was so great a favourite with my elderly relation, that whenever any visitors came to the house she was always brought forward into notice, and many praises bestowed upon her; while, to my utter vexation, I was constantly overlooked.

“My sister Kitty was very good-natured all this time, never insulting me, but doing all in her power to oblige me. And when we were quite alone, I was happy with her: but as often as I heard her praises, my hatred would rise against her, and often have I wished—such was my wickedness—that something might happen to spoil her beauty. At length my poor sister caught a fever, and died. I cried a good deal at the time of her death, and sometimes wished I had behaved better to her.

“After my poor sister’s death, I did not think so much about beauty, excepting when I heard the handsome pictures talked of, till I came to school. Then the same desire of being handsome returned, and I hated every one whom I thought prettier than myself: so that I became more miserable than ever, until my governess, and you, Miss Jenny, pointed out to me the value of religion, and showed me where to seek help in order to overcome my evil passions. Since that time,

“ My dear Miss Betty,” said Miss Jenny when the little girl had done speaking, “ it is a great pleasure to hear you express yourself in this manner. There is nothing in this world which can make us happy, but religion. If we fear God, we shall find peace of mind in every situation ; and if we do not fear him, no beauty, health, wisdom, high rank, fine clothes, nor honours, can make us really happy a single moment.”

And now the little party, in much good-humour and cheerfulness, attended their kind governess's summons to supper ; after which, evening being also concluded, they retired to their peaceful slumbers.

Thursday,

The seventh Day.

THE next day, after the morning lessons were finished, the little party returned again to their arbour; when Miss Jenny Peace asked Miss Henny Fret if she should have any objection to relate the chief circumstances of her life, as it was now come to her turn.

The little girl very modestly answered, that there was nothing in her life worth relating, for that she had always been a very naughty child: but that she was willing to do any thing which might be required of her for the satisfaction of her school-fellows.

The Description of Miss Henny Fret.

MISS HENNY FRET was not yet nine years of age. She was one of those children whose good looks entirely depend on the state of their mind, there being nothing remarkable, either one way or other, in her person; therefore, as she had hitherto been carelessly brought up, and allowed to indulge every evil passion incident to our fallen nature, she had passed, in general, for a plain, insignificant, unpleasant little girl. She had moreover acquired a habit of raising her upper lip in such a manner as constantly to show her teeth:

with her temper, and sometimes with so much success as to render the whole expression countenance agreeable ; and, in consequence she appeared, at times, quite another child.

The Life of Miss Henny Fret.

“ I HAD one brother,” said Miss Henny Fret, “ Miss Jenny Peace had ; but my manner of dealing with him was quite the reverse of that in which she lived with her brother. I was also managed in a very different way from that which was adopted in Miss Jenny’s case ; for all my guilt or blame was to arise from my being better behaved than my brother.

“ If I was guilty of any fault, it was immediately said, ‘ O ! fie, Miss ! Master George will not be guilty of such a thing for the world while he was carried abroad, while I was kept at home ; then I was bemoaned or encouraged in such terms as these—‘ Poor Miss Henny is left at home

him, and, being in a peevish humour, would not allow me as much of it as I desired, the servant that attended me was sure to bid me take care, when I had any thing he wanted, not to give him any : so that I thought, if I did not endeavour to be revenged on him, I should show a want of spirit, which was of all things what I dreaded most.

“ I had a better memory than my brother ; so that whenever I learned any thing, my comfort was to laugh at him, because he could not learn so fast : but while I got a good deal by rote, I neither minded what I learned, nor took any pains to retain it. And thus, what I was eager to learn one day, in order to show George how much cleverer I was than himself, I forgot the next.

“ Being a great favourite in the house, I was never denied any thing I asked for ; but I was nevertheless very unhappy, for the same reason that Miss Dolly Friendly's sister was so. I have even sometimes sat down and cried, because I did not know what I would have : till at last, I grew so peevish and humoursome, as to be always on the fret. In this unhappy condition I lived till I came to school : and here finding that the other young ladies wanted to have their humours indulged as well as myself, I became more miserable than ever, and continued so till our happy reconciliation took place ; when I was taught that God would help me to behave better, if I would but ask him.”

Here Miss Henny Fret ceasing, Miss Jenny Peace thus addressed the little party : “ We have all, my dear school-fellows, abundant reason”

and truly, who can put every one of us in the way of overcoming our real pressures: and let us pray that the great work, which by him, in his infinite mercy, begun, may meet with no opposition from us."

Now all the little company having told the history of their past lives excepting Miss Polly Suckling, Miss Jenny, smiling, addressed the little darling, and asked her if she would be so kind as to tell her school-fellows what she could remember of her past life.

Miss Polly coloured when thus addressed, but very prettily complied with the request.

The Description of Miss Polly Suckling.

MISS POLLY SUCKLING was not six years of age, and so short of her age, that few people took her to be much above four. She had the most exactly proportioned limbs in the world, very small bones, and was as fat as a little cherub. She was extremely fair, her hair quite flaxen, her eyes a dark blue, her lips plump and red, and when she smiled, she seemed to show a hundred dimples. She was, in short, the very picture of health and infantine beauty, and was the plaything of the whole school.

The Life of Miss Polly Suckling.

"I do not know much of myself," said little Polly, "only that I do not remember my poor *mamma*, for she died a great many years ago. But *papa* loves me very much, and I love my

papa ; and I love my governess, and my school-fellows, but Miss Jenny best of all. And I should like to be good, and hope that God will help me to be good ; for my governess says, that God loves little children, and that the Lord Jesus Christ died to save us from going to hell."

When little Polly had finished her short story, all her companions kissed her ; and Miss Jenny especially testified much tenderness towards her, taking her in her arms, and saying, " God will bless you, my little darling, and will make you good ; for he carrieth the lambs in his arms, and they who seek him early shall assuredly find him."

By this time the dinner bell rang ; and when the little party had assembled at table, Mrs. Teachum informed them that she expected a person upon particular business in the afternoon, whose presence would prevent her usual attentions to them ; and that therefore she should send them, under the care of a servant, to convey to the old woman at the dairy-house, a certain book of devotions which she had promised her.

The young people heard this proposal with joy ; and little Polly assured her governess, that she would not say one word to the old woman about her gray hairs and her shaking head.

Dinner being ended, they soon appeared ready for their walk ; when they set out, attended by two maid-servants. As soon as they arrived at the dairy-house, the good old woman expressed great pleasure in seeing them, and told little Polly, that she should have plenty of cream and strawberries, for her daughter had been that day in the

her mother's way to let all children be as they pleased.

Miss Sukey Jennet, with some indignation on her countenance, was going to answer ; but Jenny Peace, fearing that she would say something less mild than might be wished, gave a significant look, and turning to the young woman with great modesty and good temper, said, "I hope you will see, Mrs. Nelly, that our governess's instructions are of more force than lose all their effect when we are out of her presence, and that we have also some fear of God, you know, is present with us, although our governess is absent : and I trust you will have no cause, when we go away, to complain of our behaviour."

Mrs. Nelly's anger being thus appeased, she soon loaded the long table with strawberry cream. Of which, when the children had taken what Miss Jenny thought proper, they took leave with the utmost civility : but not before

panions had indeed behaved as well as if their governess had been with them.

Miss Jenny did not forget to reward the old woman handsomely for her good cheer. And as they were walking home, she observed to Miss Sukey Jennett, whom she had prevented from making any answer to Mrs. Nelly's speech, how much better it was to gain another person's good will by our own endeavours to be obliging, than to provoke them to be more cross by our angry answers and reproaches.

As this little company proceeded homewards, enlivening their way with pleasing talk and lively observations, they passed near to a nobleman's house, situated in a beautiful park; where, after stopping a few minutes to look about them, the young people expressed a wish that their governess would, some time or other, permit them to visit that fine house, when the nobleman and his family were absent.

Mrs. Wilson, the housekeeper, who by chance was walking that way, and heard what the young ladies said, immediately came up to them, and told Miss Jenny, that her Lord and Lady were then absent, having set out, one for London, and the other for another fine seat forty miles off, that very morning. And as she knew them to be Mrs. Teachum's well-regulated family, she took that occasion to inform them, that they should be welcome to see the house and gardens now or at any time they pleased.

Miss Jenny thanked Mrs. Wilson, and said, as it was nearly two hours sooner than their governess expected them home, she would accept of her

of the rooms were adorned with fine pictures, and others were hung with tapestry scarcely so beautiful as those paintings, and most of the apartments above stairs were furnished with the finest sort of needlework.

The little party were struck into a sort of wonder and admiration at the splendid appearance of every thing around them, nor could they find the words to express the various perceptions which came into their minds by such a variety of dazzling and gaudy things : but when they came to the needlework, it was impossible to help smiling ; and how every one chiefly fixed her attention on that sort of work in which she herself was employed.

The good-natured housekeeper was very much pleased to see the young people so much delighted, and answered all their questions concerning the stories represented in the pictures and tapestry, as fully as the time would permit.

Miss Lenny, however, being fearful of over-

more satisfaction in her life, than to see so many well-behaved young ladies, who all seemed, not only pleased with what they saw, but doubly delighted and happy in seeing each other pleased. In short, she said they should not go till they had been in her room, and eaten some sweetmeats of her own making ; which, overcome by the importunity of the good woman, Miss Jenny at length consented to do. Accordingly, they followed Mrs. Wilson to her own room : in which, when they all were seated, little Miss Polly Suckling broke out with great glee, “ Well, this is a most charming house ; I wish we could all live here for ever. How happy must be the Lord and Lady of this fine place ! ”

“ My dear Miss Polly Suckling,” said Miss Jenny, “ do you think that these things really make people happy ? Has not our good governess often told us, that such things have in reality nothing at all to do with happiness ? ”

“ It is very true,” said the housekeeper, “ for even my Lord and Lady appear to have no delight in all this magnificence. Daily accustomed to the splendour of the place, they walk through all these apartments, without ever seeming to observe anything in them ; or if they observe them at all, it is rather with a look that denotes a sort of discontent than with any kind of pleasure.” Then turning off the discourse with a deep sigh, Mrs. Wilson presented each of the young ladies with a paper of dried sweetmeats ; after which, insisting upon a repetition of their promise, that, with Mrs. Teachum’s consent, they would come

their leave, which they did in the most courteous manner.

Upon reaching their home, Miss Jenny gave her governess a faithful account of all that had passed, not forgetting the agreeable entertainment they had accidentally met with of seeing Lord ——'s fine house ; together with the great civility of Mrs. Wilson, " which I hope, Madam," said Miss Jenny, " I did not do wrong in accepting."

" You did very properly, my dear," said Mrs. Teachum ; " for when people are willing to oblige us, and can do so without any inconvenience to themselves, it is always right to accept their offer, since you even gratify them, by putting it into our power to give you pleasure."

Miss Jenny then told Mrs. Teachum many things which had passed in conversation during their walk to the dairy-house ; and especially what the Polly Suckling had said in the housekeeper's-room, together with Mrs. Wilson's an-

Mrs. Teachum then gave Miss Jenny a short account of the sad history of Lord and Lady X——. “This nobleman and his Lady,” said she, “have been married seven years. Lord X—— is the most discontented of men, because he has no children, and consequently no heir to his honours and estates. He is naturally of a haughty, impetuous temper, impatient of all disappointment; and this disposition not being subdued in his youth, has led him into all sorts of excesses. His Lady not being much better tempered than his Lordship, and valuing herself highly upon her beauty and the large fortune she brought him, greatly resents his treatment of her. So that having hitherto lived in the most unhappy way, they have at last agreed to part by mutual consent; and the different journeys they have this morning taken, were, I suppose, the prelude to a final separation.”

Having said thus much, Mrs. Teachum wished Miss Jenny a good night, who immediately retired to rest with her little companions.

Friday,*The eighth Day.*

Mrs. Teachum in the morning inquired how her scholars were after their walk, and was pleased to hear that they were quite well. They then performed their several tasks with cheerfulness—and after the evening school-hours, when they were hastening as usual to the arbour, Mrs. Teachum called Miss Jenny into her parlour, and said, “My dear child, if you have nothing particularly prepared for this day’s amusement, I shall have a pleasure in confiding to you the account of a young lady, which I received many years ago, from a letter from a friend: not doubting but that you will, with the blessing of Almighty God, be

verness with a low courtesy and a smile, she hastened to the arbour, in which, by this time, all the party were assembled.

When Miss Jenny informed them on what account their governess had called her apart, and showed them the little book which had been confided to her for their amusement and profit, they expressed great joy, and entreated her to begin the reading of it immediately ; with which request she complied without delay.

A Letter from Mrs. Graham of the City of London, to her friend Mrs. Teachum, dated Anno Domini, 1730.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

YOU ask me for some account of my Emily, my lovely Emily. O my friend ! you know not what pain you give me by such a request ; and yet you say, that if I have but courage to recall to mind, and, in its due order, commit to paper what I first knew of my Emily, and the manner in which this sweet child daily waited upon the Lord for a renewal of strength, thereby being enabled to fulfil in an exemplary manner all the duties of life, it might hereafter become a source of mournful pleasure to myself, and of profit to others ; inasmuch as from the view, however imperfect, which I might be able to hold out of this fair model, others of the sinful children of Adam might learn *to mount up with wings as eagles ; to run and not be weary ; to walk and not faint.* (Isaiah xl. 31.) But Oh ! when I feel the sad assurance that I am for ever on earth separated from this my darling, and that

while she yet was spared to me I fulfilled towards her so imperfectly ; and when I re how little I profited by the sweet teaching gentle persuasions of this holy child ; the of my feelings becomes almost intolerable yet, I know that all this trouble is no more needful to teach me the sinfulness of my and the value of my soul. But to speak on what relates merely to myself, I perform the painful task which your friend appointed me.

My husband, as you well know, is a man and has been exceedingly successful in his transactions, insomuch that we for many years past have been in a very affluent condition and circumstance, however, greatly embittered by the enjoyment of our riches ; we had no other than the almighty Ruler of all things, by whom every thing is well done, refused us the gratification we wished in that respect. I will not say a little patience I submitted at first to this dispensation of Providence ; but at the time I had no sense of vital religion ; I attended only to its outward forms, but my heart did not know the sweet influences of Christianity.

A little more than twelve years ago, my husband having had a severe illness, we were obliged to spend our summer months in the country. The expense was no object to us, we took a journey into the north of England, and there hired for the season an old-fashioned house, situated in a place abounding with fruits and flowers of various kinds. Here, having no employment, and but few hours, and as Mr. Graham was un-

much exercise, we spent a great part of our time in sitting on a garden-chair, which we found under the spreading branches of a walnut tree, situated on a round plot of grass in the centre of the garden. On this pleasant spot, while I employed myself with my needle, my husband read to me the Pastorals of Phillips, the Arcadia of Sir Philip Sydney, and the Spectators and Tatlers, with other fashionable works of the day: by which we found ourselves amused, our taste perhaps improved, and some kind of indistinct respect for religion and morality acquired. But still we remained in great darkness as to vital religion, and were deplorably ignorant of those important doctrines on which the great truths of the Gospel are built; namely, the utter depravity of the human heart, and our absolute need of a Saviour.

From this our walnut tree seat we were presented with one of the most lovely prospects which can be imagined. Our garden and house were situated on the declivity of a considerable eminence. Directly on our front was an orchard, below which appeared a rich country, abounding with woods, from the centre of which, at a considerable distance, arose the tower of a church. On the right hand a different prospect opened to our view—a range of hills of considerable height terminated the horizon, whence an irregular and exceeding beautiful country descended to the banks of a river, which wound its secret course through the bottom of the valley. On the nearer side of the river the country was smiling and fertile, abounding with orchards, corn-fields, and cottages.

One feature in this landscape particularly pleased my fancy : it was a little foot-path, which passing by our garden-gate, and descending into the valley, appeared again at the distance of about a quarter of a mile, winding through a corn-field ; it was lost at the entrance of a little coppice. From the centre of this coppice arose a white chimney, the blue smoke of which indicated that the place was inhabited ; but it was left to my imagination to picture by what kind of persons. Nor could I fail to indulge my fancy, by supposing it might be the abode of some Phillis and Damon, the most perfect beings of which I could form an idea ; not knowing that these fabled creatures, these shepherds and shepherdesses of imaginary Arcadia, are often as much surpassed in true elegance and courtesy of manners by the humble Christian, however mean his situation, as the ordinary inhabitants of cottages are exceeded by the pastors and pastorellas of fable. But I as yet was wholly blind to all the perfe

sentimental nonsense to my indulgent husband on the subject. But to go on with my story.

It happened, one morning, about ten o'clock, as we were sitting in our usual place, that I saw something coming out of the little coppice and proceeding towards us along the path ; but at that distance, whatever it might be, it appeared only like a black speck. After a little while I looked again, when I could distinguish a small figure clothed in black ; and as the figure approached, I perceived it was a little girl, perhaps not seven years of age, carrying a basket. She came tripping along with a light and graceful step, discovering in every motion so peculiar a vivacity and elegance as greatly attracted my attention, and convinced me that, whatever her place of abode or her parentage might be, there was in her something which I had not often observed in children ; yet what *this* was, I could not define. I watched her till she had passed the garden-gate ; and about an hour afterwards saw her return, having been, as I supposed, to the village, which was at some little distance from our hired habitation. I marked her till she had retraced her steps, and entered again into the coppice. A second view did not destroy the first impression which the appearance of this little girl had made upon my imagination ; and as my head was then filled with poetical and pastoral ideas from the books which we had been reading, I said to my husband, " This little girl wants only to lay aside her mourning dress, and to be clothed in white, with a straw hat, a wreath of flowers, and a crook, to become as ele-

The next day, about the same hour, I did not see her, and I was nearly under one without tree, the little shepherdesse appeared again. I traced her uneven and childish steps, as she sometimes tripped hastily onwards, and then stopped and stooped, as I rightly guessed, to gather flowers; for I afterwards saw a few violets tied together with a blade of grass in her basket. At length she ascended the hill towards us, while I went out at the gate of the garden to look at her, resolving, if I liked her equally well on a near approach as at a distance, to speak to her.

I had time to examine her minutely, as she came forward. When she first perceived me, dressed as I then was, in my large hoop, my silk gown and petticoat, full trimmed, and my head dressed, I thought that she would have expressed some surprise; but the only visible effect my figure produced upon her was, that she walked forward with more steadiness than before, yet without the least appearance of embarrassment. Her hood was not pulled very far over her face, and her fair brown hair was gently agitated by the breeze. But it is impossible to describe her countenance, and equally so to give an idea of the delicacy of her features, or the sparkling vivacity of her blue eyes; yet what was most remarkable in this child was, a dignified kind of carriage and self-possession, which was not in the least disturbed when I addressed her. She was exceedingly fair; but air and exercise had given her a high bloom, which *added much* to the sweetness of her appearance. *In her hand* she carried a basket, which had *nothing in it* but the bunch of violets before spoken

of. Her dress was mourning, and though neat, bespoke an attention to economy.

I had now stepped into the middle of the path, and addressing her as she came up, I asked her name, her place of abode, and several other questions. In answer to which, she made me understand that her name was Emily; that her father, who had been an officer, was lately dead; that she once had a very dear little sister, who was also no more; and that now she only was left to her dear mamma. She added, that her mother having left the place in which she formerly resided with her father, had come to live at a cottage in the wood, which she pointed out to me, where they occupied only one room, there being other inhabitants in the house. She informed me also that her mother was very ill.

While she gave me this account, which she entered upon without confusion or hesitation, the colour rose in her cheeks, her eyes filled with tears, her lip quivered, and at length she burst into an agony of crying, making a motion as if she would have thrown herself into my arms, as, no doubt, she had been accustomed to do, on like occasions, into those of her tender mother; but hastily recollecting herself, she recovered with a peculiar dignity, and stopping short, was going to wish me a good morning with much sweetness and courtesy; when I said, "My little Miss, do not be in a hurry to leave me. Tell me why you cry. And let me know if I can do any thing to comfort you?"

"When I think of my papa and my little sister," she answered, "I cannot help crying; and

THE GOVERNESS; OR, THE

Wrong, my dear!" I answered, "why should I be wrong to weep for such dear friends?" "Because," she answered, "they are happy, they are gone to our Lord Jesus Christ; they are in his house: I know this, and therefore I ought to be glad, and not to cry."

found my heart strangely drawn to this from the first moment I saw her distinct every word she said increased my inter

Finding however a reluctance to speak on religious subjects, I inquired only what was going on.

"I am going, Ma'am," she said, "to the shop, to fetch a roll for my mother, and one for myself, with a little pot of butter, and some cheese for my mother; and I go almost every day. And these violets," said I, "what are they?"

"They are to put in a glass in my room," she answered; "I thought she would go out and get violets again, and the

I thought that accomplishments of this kind are above the capacities of children. Where then, and how can this child have acquired these ideas? Had I understood the following passage of Scripture, I should not have had so much difficulty in tracing the peculiar loveliness of this little girl to its right cause—*Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out.* (Sol. Song, iv. 16.)

Being, however, not a little confused and perplexed with what I had seen and heard, I wished Miss Emily a good morning; and hoping that I should meet her again some other time, as she so often came that way, I returned into my garden.

The next day the little shepherdess appeared again with her basket. I met her at the gate, and invited her in; while she, with great politeness, begged to be excused till she had asked her mother's leave. I wished to present her to Mr. Graham, and would have had her come in without waiting her mother's permission; but she refused with a mixture of inflexibility and sweetness, saying, "I must not disobey my poor mother, now she is ill in bed."

I replied, "You are a sweet good child, Miss Emily, and your mother is very happy in having such a little girl."

"Mamma loves me," she answered, "but I am not good."

This reply of the little girl's surprised me; and on questioning her further, she made me understand that her mamma had taught her, that all mankind are sinful and utterly depraved, and that

she herself could not do the least thing without the help of the Holy Spirit of God.

It cannot be supposed that I could have been between thirty and forty years in a Christian country, and been constantly in the habit of attending the divine ordinances, without hearing of the depravity of human nature; or that I could have read the Bible continually, as I had been in the habit of doing, and never have found it true, so it was, that this doctrine, out of the mouth of this little girl, seemed perfectly new to me. I came with a force which I could not account for. I felt ashamed and embarrassed before her, and hardly had presence of mind to say, "Well, my little Miss, go home now, and your mamma will give you leave, call upon us to-morrow in your way to the village."

Mr. Graham smiled at my enthusiastic expression of the little Emily; but the next day she came, with her mother's permission, into the garden to speak to us in her way to the village, and confessed that she fully answered my description of her.

From that time for a few weeks she came every morning, when I generally contrived to have some little nice thing to send by her to her mother, from whom I received many grateful messages in return, with one or two little notes, generally written on small slips of paper, expressing my gratitude, not only for my kindness to herself, but to her little Emily.

Finding, however, that what I had done for this distressed lady was too little, I resolved to do more, as Mr. Graham should be able to walk

would go together to see her, the cottage in which she resided being so situated as not to be approached safely with a carriage.

In the mean time, as the summer advanced, the strawberries in the garden began to ripen fast: but we had not yet gathered any, when one morning our little Emily came in as usual, and with a peculiar meaning in her sweet face, stood awhile, lingering and looking earnestly at me, even after I had told her that it was time to go: for her poor mother, in one of her notes, had requested me not to detain her longer than a certain hour, adding, that she could not bear to be long deprived of her. Emily however, as I said before, this day lingered some minutes after I had told her it was time to go. At length, colouring deeply, she said, "Ma'am, will you sell me some strawberries?"

I was surprised at the request, and the more, as she had never before asked for any thing. I was going to say, "No, my dear, I will give you some;" but Mr. Graham checked me, whispering, that he wished to know what the little girl was about.

"I have got a penny of my own, Ma'am," she said, perceiving my hesitation, "and I should like to buy some strawberries instead of a roll."

"What, for your own eating?" I said.

"No," she answered, "not for myself."

Mr. Graham himself immediately gathered her a large cabbage-leaf full, and took her penny; at which she appeared to be in an ecstasy of joy, her whole face brightening up in a manner that I had never witnessed in any creature before.

"I shall be so happy now!" she said. "Yes

terday my mamma wished for strawberries now I shall have some to give her." I took her leave, and hastened to the village.

I contrived to meet her at the garden when she came back. I looked into her basket and saw that the number of strawberries was diminished, and that she had purchased but few. The joy of her countenance still remained unchanged; any abatement; and cheerfully wishing her good morning as she passed, I watched her as she was tripping along the little path-way.

The next day, at the usual time, my little sister appeared again. She came running into the garden with her basket, to tell us that her dear mamma had enjoyed the strawberries so much!—so much! In her hand she held her pocket-book, and begged us to sell her some more strawberries.

"But, my dear," said Mr. Graham, turning upon his knee, for he was now become even more fond of her than I was, if it were possible, "what did you do for your supper?"

She looked earnestly at him, not knowing what he meant.

"Your roll!" he said, "how did you spend your roll?—you had no roll last night."

"I did not want my roll; I saved some potatoes at dinner, to eat at night," she answered.

"But, my dear," inquired I, "what did your mamma say, when she saw you eating potatoes?"

On hearing this question, her cheeks reddened, and her eyes filled with tears. "Oh," she answered, "my poor mamma does not like me now what I do." She could say no more.

being quite overcome, threw her arms round my neck, and burst into an agony of grief.

"What! my child," I said, much affected, "is your mamma so very ill?"

I found, by her answers, that the poor lady had kept her bed for several days; but I could not find out whether she was actually in danger of death: however, I told the little girl that I would certainly come the next day and see her.

On hearing this, her countenance brightened up, and she began to tell me how her mamma had relished the strawberries. "She ate them all, Ma'am," said the little girl, "so eagerly! and this morning she wants more; and here, Ma'am, is my penny."

"No, my Emily," said Mr. Graham, quite affected, "no, no, we will not have your poor penny, sweet child. Take it back; you are welcome ten thousand times, and so is your dear mother, to all our garden can afford, and our house too."

"But please, Sir," said the sweet little girl, "please to take my penny: I want to give the strawberries to mamma—please to let me buy them."

There was no resisting the gentle importunity of the lovely child: it seemed to give her particular pleasure to deny herself in order to gratify her mother. There was a touching mixture of childishness and warm disinterested love in the conduct of this dear little girl, of which I never before could have formed a conception, and which quite overcame Mr. Graham and myself. We could not resist her, but, taking her penny, we all set

work to gather the strawberries; with
e hastened home as before, transported with
The next morning I prepared myself for a
the cottage in the wood, which was the
nce of my Emily, intending to have accomp
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me not. An hour or more passed away
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oping along the path-way. Mr. Graham
be uneasy, and walked two or three tim
e garden-gate to look out for his little da
At length some one came out from the w
at first thought it was our Emily, but we
tly could distinguish a woman in a gray
e ascended the hill, and coming in at the
n-gate, told us, in reply to our eager ques
t she was the daughter of the poor wom
ose cottage Mrs. Norton (our Emily's mar
l lodged; and that she now came to tell u

I cannot tell you how I was affected on hearing of the poor lady's death, nor how much I reproached myself for my neglect in not having once gone to see her. I burst into a flood of tears, and loudly lamented my negligence : while Mr. Graham kindly comforted me, saying, "Do not afflict yourself, my dear ; the little Emily is left, and has probably no friends who love her as we do. We have no children ; let us adopt her. She shall be your child, if God permits, and you shall fill up the place of the mother she has lost."

Animated and comforted with this sweet hope, I immediately rose to follow the woman, requesting Mr. Graham to send a man-servant after me to the cottage, in case any assistance might be wanted.

I cannot describe to you how strangely I was affected as I trod the narrow foot-path, in which I had so often traced with an eye of affection the little shepherdess as I always loved to call our Emily. At length we entered the wood, where we saw before us at a small distance, deep in the shade, a white cottage, having an upper room, in which, from the window being open, I supposed the corpse to be lying.

A neat old woman, on whose venerable countenance the tenderest feelings of sorrow were depicted, came forth to meet us, and to say how thankful she was for my kindness in coming down.

"Where, my good woman," I said, "is my little Emily?"

"Oh, Madam," she answered, "it would have cut you to the heart had you seen her yesterday. She came in from your house about eleven o'clock

as blithe as a bird, and ran up to her in the strawberries: but the poor lady changed while little Miss was away, and then dying. She could not take the which the sweet babe offered her; plain to see she was pleased and touched by the kind attentions of the dear little Miss. She prayed earnestly for her child, her love she called her, and some of her words were these:—"O! my God, I leave my anxiety; for her Redeemer is mighty to plead her cause with thee." (*Prose*)

I could bear to hear no more of the discourse; but hastening on, entered the room. I passed through the lower apartment and staircase, which ascending quickly, with a heavy heart I entered the chamber of death.

There such a scene presented itself as I can never forget. On a decent bed lay the body neatly laid out; but the figure was so so emaciated by long or sharp sickness, that I conveyed no idea to my mind of what she might have been when in health. By the side of the bed, which was low, on a little table lay the lovely Emily; and, O affecting circumstance! having removed the lifeless arm from the bed, in which it had been placed by those who laid out the corpse, and resting her sweet ruby lips upon the pale cold hand, with fatigue and sorrow, after watching all night,) she had thus fallen into a deep

What a contrast appeared between the appearance of the mother worn with sickness

though her mournful pillow was no other than the cold hand of her dead mother, (a hand which had been the guard and support of her tenderest infancy,) yet the kindly warmth of balmy sleep had flushed the fair cheek of the little Emily, and was gently restoring the strength and spirits which her late watching and sorrow had exhausted.

The apartment was, as might be expected, meanly furnished: nevertheless it contained several little things which pointed it out as having been the residence of one who had fallen from a state of comparative affluence.

Over the narrow chimney-piece hung the portrait of an officer dressed in full uniform, which I conceived immediately to be Emily's father. On a little round table stood a gold watch, the beating of which was distinctly heard in the death-like silence of the apartment; and near it lay a handsome Bible, which appeared to have been much used.

But what affected me most, was the little basket of strawberries, for which the sweet daughter had a second time paid the price of a self-denying rarely practised by children. She had procured those strawberries as a gratification for her dearest parent: but it was a gratification which came late to be enjoyed.

Having gazed for some minutes on this scene, I turned round to the old woman and her daughter, who had followed me up stairs.

I know not what my countenance expressed, but the old woman seeming to discover it, and nothing of disapprobation, said softly but

to separate them :” and hearing my servant I called him up, and directed him gently to the sweet child, and convey her with as much motion as possible to our house. This was as I wished. Into so sound a sleep had she fallen that he raised her up without waking her, and carried her away ; leaving me standing by the corpse.

Very affecting thoughts passed through my mind as we were removing the child from the arms of that tender parent, who had so carefully watched over her from early infancy.

“ Oh ! poor corpse !” at length I said ; move your Emily—her tears will never moisten your cold hand—but I will, God willing, supply your place. Yes ;” I said, lifting the hand on which the sweet child’s cheek lately rested, “ I will be a mother to your child—but Oh ! I am not worthy to fill your place—I have hitherto lived as without God in the

ties: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (Rom. viii. 26.)

The import of my prayer was this—that, if it should please God to grant us our wish, and place the little Emily under our care, he would give us grace in every respect to supply to her the place of her departed parents, and to carry on that Christian education which her mother had so piously and successfully commenced. I prayed also for myself and my husband that when the time of our departure should come, we might be enabled to trust our cause to the Almighty, and to say of ourselves, as the departed lady had said of her child, “Our Redeemer is mighty, he will plead our cause with thee.”

I waited by the corpse till I had, in some degree, recovered my composure: then kissing its cold forehead, I gave some few directions to the old woman, and returned home.

On my arrival, I inquired eagerly after Emily. She was awake, and was sitting on Mr. Graham's knee, with her head resting on his shoulder, while he was most kindly endeavouring to comfort her. She received me with sweet affection, and asked me if she might not go back and sit by her mamma till she was laid in the grave. I endeavoured to persuade her not to think of such a thing.

“It would make me happy,” she said. “O! dear Mrs. Graham, let me go once again—let me kiss my mamma's hand only once more!”

I did not know what to say, or how to talk with

in the midst of all this, to which she seemed to have listened from politeness rather than interest, she said, "O Ma'am! talk to me of mamma.—Where is my mamma now? Is she with papa and my little sister? and are they all with my Saviour? Are they clothed in his righteousness? Is my mamma very fair now? is there no spot or stain of sin about her? Please, Ma'am, to talk to me about these things."

How could I talk to her about what I did not understand? I was not acquainted with religious subjects: I feared, even before this child, to show my ignorance; so I said, "My dear, my heart is so heavy and sad, that I cannot talk."

"Please then to read the Bible, dear Ma'am read about our Saviour;" she answered. "I think that will comfort me; the Bible tells about heaven."

"I will, my dear child," I said, "I will read the Bible, and Mr. Graham will read it also, if you will but stay with us, and not want to go away and we will serve God together; and, with God's help, we will prepare ourselves for that time when we shall all go to be united with your dear parents."

"Love you! I have always loved you," I answered, "and now I shall be your mamma."

"Mamma!" she said, "no, not my mamma—you shall not be my mamma—my mamma is dead; but you shall be my aunt, my own aunt, my darling aunt, and I will never, never leave you."

In saying this she clasped her arms closely round my neck, and broke out afresh into tears.

After this conversation, the dear child became evidently more composed. In the evening, however, her fatigue returned, having, as I found, had nothing but disturbed nights for some time past. I confided her to the care of my own maid, a well-disposed and respectable young woman; whom I directed to sleep with her, and tenderly to sooth her as often as she might awake and call for her mother, which she was in the habit of frequently doing for some time after she came to live with us.

I was exceedingly uneasy till the relation arrived to whom the posthumous letter of poor Mrs. Norton had been sent, lest, on his arrival, he should be disposed to remove Emily from us. But we found him so far from making any objection to our keeping her, that he expressed himself very happy in discovering that his little kinswoman, as he called her, had fallen into such good hands; by which it was easy to perceive, that he meant, into the hands of persons so able to provide for her.

We asked him how it had happened, that Mrs. Norton, who appeared to have been a woman of respectable family, was left to die in such obscurity.

with little private fortune, who late campaign on the continent : only a small pension : that her offered her a situation in one which she had declined, choosing obscurity, and devote herself to her little daughter.

This was the only account which my sweet Emily's parents ; and goods which she inherited from her father's picture, her mother's which I had seen.

We thought it better, if possible, to prevent Emily's seeing her mother's portrait, even the mention of her name so as sometimes quite to disorder her mind. The poor lady's funeral was the last which she saw from her little daughter : and after it, Mr. Graham not finding it could not prove so rapidly as could be wished, crossed our present situation, and, crossing the sea, took a house on the sea-shore in Wales.

Here Mr. Graham's health was restored, and here our sweet Emily, after some time, soon regained her former cheerfulness, though, from her sprightly manner, and affectionate deportment towards them, it might seem that she had ceased to be a daughter to her parents and her little sister ; that the case, for the recollection of her mother, was effaced from her mind. Past and tender endearments were fresh in her remembrance, by certain

ciations of which I could at first form no idea ; so that I was often surprised when, in the midst of a calm conversation, or a country walk, her countenance would suddenly change, and her eyes fill with tears which could not be suppressed. But, what especially shows the power and importance of early religious instruction, she seemed never to think of her dear departed friends, without having her mind immediately raised towards God : inso-much that her lamentations for the death of her parents, and her early separation from her sister, were regularly followed by expressions of gratitude to that Saviour, through the merits of whose death she looked to a happy and eternal reunion with them.

Mr. Graham and I, by God's blessing, perceived the loveliness of this little girl's character, and what it might become, if so fair an outline should ever be adequately filled up. We earnestly, I trust, and sincerely, wished to do our duty towards her. But Mr. Graham, who was an accurate observer, made me sensible, that flattery might soon destroy that beautiful Christian simplicity which adversity had in some measure assisted to produce ; by which means he kindly restrained my overweening fondness, and taught me to refrain my lips from indiscreet commendation.

We remained, during the whole of that summer and autumn, in the country : whence returning to London in the winter, we lived in much greater retirement than we had formerly done ; Mr. Graham finding, from the experience of several past months, that he was most happy in the bosom of his own family.

our family, had led us to read it more than in former days, partly, for the purpose of satisfying her, and, partly, with the desire of increasing our own acquaintance with it. I also began to take delight in other religious writings, while our attendance on the outward observances of religion became less a mere matter of form than it once had been. Yet I mean not to boast of all this time, I may truly say, that my growth in grace was exceeding slow, my backsliding frequent, and my love of the world continually interfering with my religious duties.

Eight years had now passed away since I had entered our family—eight years of unhappiness, perhaps of more unhappiness than is consistent with our spiritual good. But I say, *perhaps*, when this was *certainly* the case, seeing that *this is not our rest*. (Micah ii. 12.) Therefore the Lord leads us from *this* to a better *resting-place, as an eagle stirreth*

ding fear of God, or natural and acquired endowments so sweetly shaded by Christian humility. Though she described herself to be (and that truly) a miserable sinner, in whom, naturally, dwelt no good thing; yet her conversation and deportment displayed so much of the beauty of holiness, that we could not but feel assured, that her bosom was indeed become the abode of that Holy Spirit, *from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed.*

At the age of fifteen, her mind seemed to take even a still more serious turn. She became also at this period more anxious for my spiritual welfare, and that of Mr. Graham. At the same time her health beginning visibly to decline, she expressed her decided opinion, that she should shortly leave this present evil world, and enter into everlasting rest.

Whenever she spoke on this subject, it affected me greatly; though I could not bring my mind to think it possible that I should be so soon deprived of my darling. The probability however of such an event became gradually more apparent. The insidious disease which had unexpectedly assailed her, continued to gain ground; yet, so slowly, that for a year and a half we were deluded with the hope of her recovery. At length all hope was removed, and we were brought suddenly to see that we must speedily make up our minds to part with our lovely child. This proved a grievous trial of that faith, which I had for some time supposed to be thoroughly confirmed. I lately imagined *that my mountain stood strong: (Psalm xxx. 7*

tiently to the will of God, and was soothed to say, "My God, not my will, but be done." But I will pass rapidly over of my history.

The growth in grace of our dear child was especially apparent to every eye during weeks of her life. A few hours before seized with the last mortal pangs, she in the most solemn and affecting manner, than Graham and myself for all our kindness, expressing her affection for us as for very dear friends and assuring us, that her feelings at that time were not stronger for her natural parents, than for us her adopted father and mother. She then proceeded to exhort us, in a manner which will never be forgotten, to a serious consideration of our immortal souls. She pressed upon us the important doctrine of our natural depravity and consequent utter incapacity of helping ourselves. She next spoke of the Saviour : and on the

point out the pleasure which she conceived to await us on our reunion in the presence of our adorable Redeemer. Here, however, her feelings overcame her dying frame, and her lovely face sunk upon my bosom, as I sat supporting her in my arms. But the subject becomes too affecting. —Oh, my Emily! my Emily! child of my tenderest affection! beloved of thy Saviour! thou art removed to a happier world; while I am left bereaved of the delight of mine eyes, and the idol of my affections.

I perhaps loved this amiable young woman more than was right, bestowing upon the creature what was due only to the Creator. But I stand reprov'd, and, I hope, submissive to the will of God. Yet, although several years are passed away since I lost my Emily, my wounds continue to bleed; and I still find it necessary to pray for a more entire submission to the divine will.

But I hasten to shut up this painful relation. I have performed the task assigned me by your friendship; and I shall probably hereafter rejoice that I have had power to execute it. I could add much more, but dare no longer expatiate on this subject. I therefore close my letter with an earnest prayer—that my will may be brought into complete subjection to that of my almighty Father.

M. GRAHAM.

When Miss Jenny Peace had reached the conclusion of this distressing story, all the young people remained silent; not one word was spoken; nor indeed for some time could any one

the party articulate a word : every with tears, and some even sobbed length Miss Dolly Friendly, bursting of tears, exclaimed, " O lovely, lovely am sure that if I had been Mrs. Gral have been just like her, and should love Emily too much."

" But my dear Miss Dolly," Jenny, wiping away her tears, " I have my governess, and also my poor mamma frequently affirm, that whenever we picture to the Creator, however lovely that creature may be, we commit a great sin in such a case there is reason to believe the Almighty will, in his mercy, remove our excessive affection, in order that we give our hearts to Him who alone is worthy of our entire devotion and love."

Here their conversation was interrupted by the bell ringing for supper : on which the whole party all hastened into the house. Mrs. Gral was rather pleased than disconcerted by the display of sensibility which she observed on the part of the young people at this season, readily guessing the cause of that appearance. She however took no notice of the matter at that time.

After supper, the little party having attended divine service, retired to their beds. The young people spent their time, till they fell asleep, in talking of the lovely Emily, and considering how *themselves* were inferior to that *child*.

Saturday,

The ninth Day.

EARLY on the morrow, after morning prayers, which Mrs. Teachum never failed to offer every day in the school-room, the little company took a walk in the garden while breakfast was preparing. The fine weather, and the beautiful prospects around them, all united to increase their pleasure. They looked upon one another with delight, while every object in nature reminded them of that God to whom they owed their happiness, and whose love for them they had lately been taught to consider as unquestionable, since he had given such a proof of his tender regard for the whole sinful race of man, as never was or could be given by one earthly friend to another : *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.* (John iii. 16.)

Miss Jenny Peace could not here refrain from remarking, that they were happier than any other society of children whatever.

Miss Dolly Friendly replied, "And all our happiness, my dear Miss Jenny, is owing to you."

Miss Jenny answered, "I thank you, Miss Dolly, for your kind opinion of me; and yet, my beloved friend, I should be better pleased to be

you give the glory where alone it is
me, but unto God."

Miss Dolly made no answer, but
when Miss Jenny added, while she
hand to her in an affectionate mann
intercourse with each other, M
must remember that we are sinful
if saved at all, must be saved as b
out of the fire : and this recollectio
us very sparing in the use of flatteri
one to another, which generally te
and injure us. True affection alw
good of its object, not merely its
eternal good."

Miss Dolly Friendly blushed,
that her feelings often ran away w
occasions, inclining her to testify
those she loved in an improper man

Miss Jenny Peace kissed her ten
ged her to pardon the liberty which
in speaking her mind with so much

Miss Dolly Friendly had scarcely
her that she not only forgave he
thanked her for what she had said
Teachum appeared on the steps of
calling the children to her. The
her in haste. In her hand she hel
which she had just received ; and a
nance appeared peculiarly smiling
the young people were made to hop
something agreeable to communi
nor were they disappointed, since
from a lady living in the neighb

afternoon to drink tea with her. This lady's house was situated about a mile and a half from Mrs. Teachum's, in the centre of a beautiful wood, which was distinctly seen from the windows of the school-room. She was a lady of high rank and title, a widow, and without children; but of so great an age, that, although she perfectly enjoyed all her faculties, yet she had not been able to leave her house for many years. She saw little company; but being truly pious, she was always anxious to do good, forming and executing many plans with that view. She was not personally acquainted with Mrs. Teachum; but having been told how anxious this excellent woman was to bring up her young ladies in the fear of God, she sent to request their company, with the intent of affording the young ladies pleasure, and encouraging them to proceed in that sacred path which leads to the truest happiness.

After reading the invitation in an audible voice, Mrs. Teachum kindly promised the little party, that, if they behaved well, she should have great pleasure in presenting them to the noble lady who had done them this honour. The young ladies were greatly delighted, and hastened to the school-room to begin, without loss of time, the tasks which their governess had appointed them. And, I am happy to say, that they all worked with willing hearts and hands: insomuch that they had completed their work before dinner was announced, although Mrs. Teachum had ordered it to be ready *half an hour sooner than usual*, for the purpose of

would come early.

About two o'clock the happy assembly assembled in the hall, all neatly dressed in a silk slip, with a lawn apron and lace, wearing a small cap with a narrow band neatly quilled round it. Each of the girls had a rose-bud and a sprig of jessamine in her bosom, and each held in her hand a tippet, ready to put on as soon as the guests should appear.

Mrs. Teachum, who was always punctual to her appointments, soon came in, and having looked at her little pupils to satisfy herself that they were decently dressed, she exhorted them all to remember the Christian courtesy, which she had often taught them; namely, to *be kindly affected to one another with brotherly love; in honouring one another; (Rom. xii. 10.) to render tribute to whom tribute is due, and fear to whom fear is due.*

Faulconbridge's wood, through which they had nearly a mile to walk.

At the entrance of the wood, Mrs. Teachum looking at her watch, and finding that she was a little too early, proposed that they should all sit down on the trunk of a tree, which had been lately felled, and which was then lying on one side of the way. The little party were in so cheerful and contented a state of mind, that every thing appeared sweet and delightful to them; so with a general smile they sat down upon the rustic seat to which Mrs. Teachum had invited them.

While they remained in this place, they had opportunity of observing many things which greatly pleased them. They saw two little squirrels in an opposite tree, sitting on one of the boughs, holding something in their fore paws, which they lifted to their mouths just as a human creature would do, while their tails, adorned with long hair, were raised up behind them as high as their heads. But upon one of the children moving, the pretty animals started and ran away, which set all the little merry company a-laughing.

The air in this place was filled with the perfume of flowers; and here and there the blue-bells grew so thickly under the trees, that the ground appeared to be quite enamelled with them. In other places the many-coloured vetch with the wood-anemone afforded a beautiful variety, raising the one its *gay* and the other its *delicate* head from among the thick moss. Mrs. Teachum made her little girls to observe all these beautiful works of God; pointing out to them how in the wilderness, where no man dwelleth, the Lord

satisfies the desolate and waste ground with rain from heaven, and causes the bud and herb to spring forth. (*Job*, xxxviii.

From hence too, copying the example of our blessed Saviour, she proceeded to draw a lesson—that, as God Almighty supplies the wants of each little flower of the field, he assuredly much more supply both the temporal and spiritual wants of those who love him. “Therefore,” added she, “my dear children, apply to your God and Saviour for grace to behave well and to do good. Remember, little flowers, how beautiful are they, how bright their colours, and how sweet their fragrance; and do you, my dears, pray to be like them—lovely—becoming gentle, obliging, and modest, and, like these flowers, carrying the fragrance to the several stations to which God calls you.”

So saying, Mrs. Teachum rose up, and all walked forward, and soon came to the house of Lady Faulconbridge. It was situated in the lowest part of the wood, and though it was very considerable. It was a large house, though not a lofty house, formed of dark timber, the ends of the beams bearing many grotesque figures, representing dragons, lions, and sphinxes. The windows were pointed or arched, the panes were set with bosses of iron, and many of the panes were filled with painted glass. The house was surrounded with a flower-garden, laid out in several parterres, each alley being terminated by a tree, and the whole enclosed

Mrs. Teachum now walked first, and finding the garden-door open, she proceeded to the entrance of the house ; where, having pulled a bell, the door was opened by an old man-servant, who led the party through a very large hall, at each end of which was a grand oak staircase, to a large parlour, adorned with china boxes and cabinets, and hung with many pictures. At the upper end of this room, near an open window, sat the Lady Faulconbridge. This lady had the appearance of extreme old age. She had lost all her teeth, and her mouth was so much fallen in, that her nose and chin projected towards each other. Her face was extremely wrinkled and yellow. She wore a black silk dress, with a large hoop, a little plaited lace-cap and hood, with long lace ruffles, which hanging round her thin arms, made them appear still more emaciated. Her manners however were exceedingly pleasing ; and as she looked through her glass at the young people, she smiled upon each of them in a peculiarly sweet and gracious manner. She very politely begged Mrs. Teachum to sit down, and asked the young ladies if they would like to amuse themselves in the hall or garden till tea-time. They looked at Mrs. Teachum for her approbation, and having each made a low courtesy, they withdrew into the hall ; where, requiring rest after their walk, they placed themselves in a window-seat till they should be called to tea.

Here they were much amused by a parrot, which being seated on a perch in a corner of the hall, scolded and talked to them in a loud shrill voice. One of the young ladies was about

answer the parrot, and to provoke to prate more loudly, as she said, to amusement. But Miss Jenny Peace, that such behaviour would be extreme, bade her remember the pretty flowers which were content to adorn each in which it was planted : she then extol the charms of modesty and in a little female. The young lady, running to Miss Jenny Peace, kissed her affectionately, while a tear dropped from Miss Jenny's bosom.

Being now called to tea, they went into a parlour in a pretty and modest manner, to their several ages, courtseying long. They then took their seats at some distance from the tea-table, without noise or ceremony, as they were directed by the elderly servant, to whom they had not seen before, and Lady Faulconbridge, was engaged in the tea.

While they were sitting at tea, Lady Faulconbridge was talking to Mrs. Peace, and the attention of the little party was given by a large picture which hung on the wall, and in so good a light, that every part was seen to advantage, and appeared beautiful. It represented a very young lady sitting in an open alcove. The lady was in a silk dress, extremely full, with loose kind of tippet of fine lace. Her hair was dressed flat on the top of her head, and curled down her neck, and richly jewelled. Notwithstanding howe-

beauty of this lady, there was a haughtiness of aspect about her which much struck the little observers, and made them turn continually, with more delight, to the figure of a little girl of about eight years of age, who was ascending the steps of the alcove, looking up to the lady who sat within. The dress of this little girl resembled that of the lady, with this difference only, that she wore a fine lace-cap instead of jewels on her head; and in her hand she held an open book, written within, *The Holy Bible*. This little girl was perhaps not so regularly beautiful as the lady who sat in the alcove; but her complexion was delicately fair, while her sweet countenance indicated an habitual and pious composure mixed with some little degree of awe of the lady to whom she was looking up. Through the open pillars of the alcove (for the picture was very large) was seen in perspective a highly ornamented country, presenting open lawns on which deer were feeding, interspersed with lofty groves of trees.

It was not to be wondered at, that this picture, produced by the best painter of that age, and being in every respect exceedingly beautiful, should so entirely attract the attention of our young people, that the greater part of them could attend to nothing else, scarcely hearing a single syllable of the conversation which passed in the room. The Lady Faulconbridge observed what it was that drew their attention; so when the tea-things were removed, and the servants were withdrawn, "My dear young ladies," she said, "you have been looking very earnestly, I see, at the pic-

ture which hangs just before you : will you tell me what pleases you most in it ?”

Being somewhat embarrassed by this question, the young ladies turned towards Mrs. B. who assured them that they might speak without fear of giving offence, since the Lady of the house had honoured them by asking their opinion.

Miss Jenny Peace then, in the name of the others, replied, “ We think the lady in the picture beautiful ; but we are more charmed with the figure of that lovely little girl.”

The tears came into Lady Faulconbridge's eyes on hearing the remark of Miss Jenny Peace. She returned this answer : “ My dear young ladies, I am pleased with your opinion ; you are quite correct. That lovely child was indeed the gift of God, and in her countenance you

The History of the Lady Faulconbridge and her Children.

"ALTHOUGH I am now," said the Lady Faulconbridge, "so decrepid and melancholy an object, I was once represented by the lady sitting in the alcove. You look earnestly at me, my young friends, and perhaps are trying in vain to trace some resemblance between me and that picture: but you will be less surprised at the change you observe, when I tell you that about fifty years are passed since yonder portrait was taken, and that I was then only thirty years of age. My life has been protracted to a great length; I have long survived every individual of my family, and have spent many years confined by infirmities to this house. But I bless God for every affliction with which I have been exercised; I have not received one stroke too much from my heavenly Father. I have, during my long life, enjoyed many comforts; and my latter days have been blessed with the sweet hope of an everlasting union in the world to come with Him who died for me, and, through Him, of being reunited to that husband and those dear children, from whom I have been so long separated. But to continue my relation.

"My father was a nobleman of high rank and large fortune, residing almost constantly in the court of our gracious sovereign King Charles the Second. I was the youngest of my father's children, the most beloved, and thought to be the most beautiful among them, although all my sisters were handsome. We were brought up in ext

William Prince of Orange and Queen Mary. then returned to court, where I was made one of her majesty's maids of honour, a station which I occupied only a few months ; for the Lord Conbridge looking upon me with a favourable and demanding eye of my father, I shortly afterwards, with the queen's consent, became his

“ My husband was at that time a young gay man, having little sense of religion, and possessing a high degree of pride. I was little more than nineteen on my marriage, and was extremely haughty, uncommonly vain of my beauty, and fond of pomp and pleasure, and eagerly seeking opportunities of displaying my accomplishments in public.

“ It happened, that almost the whole of the Lord's very large estates, excepting only those which lie in this part of the country, were all entailed on the male heir ; that is,” added the respectable lady, wishing to make the matter clear to young auditors, “ it was so ordered by law, that

our having a child—a son we were determined it should be, and I caused the most superb baby-linen to be prepared for our little heir, as we doubted not it would prove. But at length, when the time of the baby's birth arrived, the nurse presented me with a little girl ; that same sweet child, whose picture you have now before you.

“Such was my disappointment and mortification at this event, that I turned with disgust from the harmless infant, and desired it might be taken from my presence. My nurse and maid expostulated with me, telling me that the baby was delicate and small, and that, in all probability, it could not be reared without its mother's milk. Upon this I grew so violent, that, fearing to endanger my life, they removed the baby from me ; though not till I had given orders for a proper nurse to be procured for the support of the child.


“My faithful maid being more anxious for the life of my baby than its unnatural mother, was so indefatigable in her inquiries after a nurse, that before night she procured one, as it appeared, every way proper. This nurse was the widow of an officer killed in battle only a few months before, and who had lately been delivered of an infant which died a few hours after its birth, living only to receive the blessings of our holy church upon earth, and then going to be made for ever happy in heaven, through the imputed righteousness of Him in whom is the offer of life unto all. (1 Cor. xv. 22.)

“This bereaved wife and mother was brought to our house, where an apartment was appro-

few hours every day. Thus neglected by Lord, and separated from my son, I consider myself as the most miserable of human beings, not reflecting, that I was myself the author of all my troubles, many of which were indeed merely imaginary. I now spent much of my time in bed, and the rest in reading romances, dressing and sauntering about my garden.

“ The alcove represented in that painting was the place where I often sat: it was at the end of a broad straight gravel walk, which extended from the grand front of the house to the park-gate, commanding a view of the house and garden on one side, and of the park on the other, adorned with many beautiful groves of trees, a lake of clear water, the village church and church-yard. To this place, as I before said, I used often to resort during the warm weather, where I spent my time in reading such of my favourite romances, or books of poetry, as tended to cherish a foolish and selfish melancholy.

“ When we had occupied this retirement rather more than three years, my little daughter’s nurse died, and was buried in the church-yard before



vice, which, had I followed, would have saved me much remorse and anguish ; and now she took occasion to expostulate with me concerning my conduct towards my little daughter—She represented to me, that she was an extremely lovely child, and had been brought up by her affectionate nurse and governess in such habits as, with the blessing of Almighty God, would render her all that a young lady of rank could be wished ; being pious, modest, gentle, intelligent, industrious, and withal having a wonderful dignity and composure of deportment, together with a sweet and gracious manner, calculated to set forth to the utmost advantage all her other perfections. She informed me how tenderly my little Lucy had watched by her governess till the moment of death ; and how she had ever since mourned her loss, not by a noisy grief, but with a deep and silent sorrow, which she testified by a strict and solemn observance of all her injunctions, as well as by an exact preservation of those habits which she had inculcated—all these expostulations, my maid concluded, by entreating me to cultivate the affection of this sweet child. ‘ You complain, my Lady,’ she said, ‘ of being alone ; of having no friend, no companion. O, permit your faithful servant to persuade you to find the friend and companion you want, in your little daughter.’

“ I answered, haughtily, that a child could not be made a suitable companion for me ; and in this manner the subject was dropped. I could not however shake off the uneasy feelings which this conversation had excited in me. The whole unreasonable tenor of my conduct towards

tude which a mother could feel, filled :
envy and dissatisfaction.

“ While I was in this state of mind, I v
day to sit in my favourite alcove. It was
morning in the early part of the summer
All nature was smiling around me ; the r
jessamine in the garden breathed the n
grant odours, and a gentle breeze wa
branches of the trees in the park, unde
the deer were feeding. All about me v
mony and delight, while all within was
and dissatisfaction. I had made an idol o
and had received in myself that recom
my error which was meet ; (*Rom.* i. 2'
was completely miserable, dissatisfied with
and discontented with the whole world.
in my hand a romance, with which I ende
to beguile the time. But as a person lo
to opiates, finds at length that they have l
efficacy, so I found, from a like cause, th

her book, though not always looking upon me, did not perceive that I was in the alcove, and my foot was upon the steps leading to it.

On seeing me she started slightly; and while colour rose in her cheeks, which were in general but faintly tinged with a slight bloom, she begged my pardon for the intrusion, and was going; when I called her back, and asked her, doubt, with my usual haughtiness, why she had not seen me earlier that day? and why she did not pay her usual compliments to me?

At this undeserved reproof she turned again, approaching me with a sweet composure of countenance; she kissed my extended hand, begging me to excuse her apparent negligence, as she feared to interrupt me, seeing I was reading.

I made no other answer than to tell her she was now at liberty to go. But while speaking, she glanced upon the book which was open in my hand, and which I perceived to be the Bible. *O Bible! the Holy Book of God!* was the name and chosen study of my little daughter; and her mother wasted her precious time in perusing romances!

This thought, pressing very strongly upon my mind, produced in me a very painful sensation of uneasiness, which, added to my other uneasy feelings, made me burst into a violent fit of tears; while I followed the lovely little creature, whose character I now for the first time began to see and admire.

Along the mazes of the shrubbery she had, it was intended to have passed through the alcove, but being

stopped to gather flowers. Her little form and gentle aspect, still more so at distance, struck me in a manner they had done before : and indeed I had never before seen her with the eye of love. But God was then beginning a work in me which would be finished until *he present me unto his Father, having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing, but holy and without blemish.* (Eph. v. 27.) Wonderful work ! O resurrection from death and new creation !—by which one so vile and corrupt, so utterly corrupt, as I then was, was made new in Christ Jesus ! And although that work, after fifty years, is still very imperfect ; yet that He who called me is faithful, and will surely and speedily accomplish it in due season. (1 *Thess.* v. 23.) But to return to my story.

“ I lost sight of my Lucy for a little while, but I then again saw her passing the bottom of the valley when I perceived that she was directing her way to the village church-yard. I now under-

and force, which I must ever attribute to an immediate divine influence: *for the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* (Heb. iv. 12.)

"I remained lost in painful thoughts till I saw my little girl come out of the church-yard, and return towards the house. It was now distressing to me, to see how carefully she avoided the alcove in her way to the house. I traced her steps as she sometimes appeared in view in a distant part of the pleasure-grounds, till at length I saw her enter the door. I then broke out in the anguish of my heart to this purpose: 'O my sweet Lucy! lovely and holy child! how unworthy am I to be called thy mother! Thy real mother now sleeps in the dust; 'tis she who now lies in the grave whom thy heart acknowledges to be such—she was thy mother, thy instructress, thy truest friend.'

"I remained in the alcove weeping, bitterly weeping, till the hour of dinner drawing near, and expecting some strangers to be present, I hastened to wash away my tears, to change my dress, and to affect a composure I little felt.

"The next morning, after a very uneasy night, I opened my heart to my maid, telling her that I had resolved to change my conduct towards my little girl, and begging that she would immediately bring her to me. I was sitting on a couch in my dressing-room when she was introduced. He

what was passing in my mind.

" ' Lucy,' I said, ' can you love me as you loved your nurse ?'

" Her face flushed high at the name of her nurse, and the tears started into her eyes. She tried to speak but could not.

" I clasped my arms round her, and kissed her. ' Lucy, my child,' I said, ' can you love me ? will you love me ? Will you be to me what you were to your nurse ?'

" She burst into tears, and pressed her sweet cheek against mine, answering, in a low soft voice ' Will you allow me, Madam ?'

" But the time will not permit me," said the Lady Faulconbridge, " to enter into every particular of my story which may seem interesting and affecting to myself. Suffice it to say, that after this interview my little Lucy became my familiar associate, while I showed myself as impetuous, and eager, and injudicious in my regard for her, as I had before been cold and backward. In a word, this sweet child now became my constant companion, my darling idol, and the object of all my foolish attentions and flatteries. I extolled her *beauty* ; I had the first artists from London to *draw her likeness* ; taking a strange delight in *dorning her with jewels and other vain ornaments* .

and assuredly I should have destroyed the good effects of all her nurse's endeavours to lead her in the heavenly way, had not the work been of God, and her pious instructress only an humble instrument in his hands—but that work being truly divine, could not be destroyed.

“Under all these trials of high prosperity my lovely child preserved her former sweet composure, with all her usual pure and pious habits. Her Bible was her daily delight, and she frequently asked permission to read it to me, as a divine directory to everlasting happiness. Her manner towards me never lost any of its former respectfulness, but became sweetly tempered with love: nor did she ever express any recollection of my former cold neglect, so that I sometimes even doubted whether she had been aware of it. Towards her little brother also her manner was indescribably amiable; and her endeavours to lead him in the right way were so earnest, and so highly blessed, that he often assured me, after the lapse of many years, that his first views of religion had been received from his sister.”

The Lady Faulconbridge now paused for a moment, to wipe away a tear that was trickling down her aged cheek; after which she proceeded to the following effect: “I had enjoyed the sweet affection of my pleasant child rather less than a year, when she was attacked with a slight fever. From this however she seemed soon to recover: but a cough shortly afterwards succeeding it, she began, though at first almost imperceptibly, to fade away.

reach my ears,
but excited in me such a degree
that I immediately sent for the best assistance which could be procured. This so replete with terrors for me, was, that sickness which had brought Lady Lucy's nurse to her grave after beginning with the same symptoms as those then apparent on my beloved child, ended in a confirmed and hopeless consumption.

" Had my beloved child been threatened with any other death, I felt that I could have borne it better : but in *this* I saw the direct and immediate punishment of my own criminal negligence, that at a time when I supposed my sin was forgotten. I knew too well how liable children to partake of the constitution of their nurses, that neither could any one induce me to think of the dreadful hint I had heard, that if my child died, it would not in all probability, be in consequence of my not having fulfilled the part of a mother. I had no skill, no tears, no prayer,

though a feeble and sinful child of Adam, was enabled to subdue the fear of death.

“ When once, in an agony of mind, I mentioned to her my persuasion, that she had derived from her nurse the seeds of that disease which was then effecting the destruction of her mortal part, and that had I but performed a mother’s duty towards her at that early period, she might have been spared to us for many years—she raised herself in her bed, and lifting up her eyes to heaven, affectingly exclaimed, ‘ I thank thee, O my God, for thou hast done all things well.’ Then turning to me, she continued, ‘ O my beloved mother ! take this for your comfort—that if I drew the seeds of temporal death from my beloved nurse, she was made the means also of leading me into an acquaintance with him who is the Resurrection and the Life. It was she, my dear Madam, who very early in life, even as long ago as I can remember, pointed out to me the Saviour, and implored for me with many earnest prayers, the blessings of the new covenant.’ She then embraced me, and besought me, in a more earnest manner than she had ever done before, to forsake the pursuit of worldly pleasures, and to devote myself wholly to God. ‘ Our beloved Saviour,’ she said, ‘ is now drawing you, my dear mother ; he is drawing you at once by tender love and gentle chastisements. O run after him ; he will bring you into his chambers, and comfort you with his love.’ (*Sol. Song* i. 4.)

My beloved child did not live long after this conversation, but passed sweetly through the grave and gate of death into her Saviour’s bosom. B

lately become so dear to him, should Accordingly the grave of our Lucy opened, and her little coffin placed her early guardian. We erected superb marble monument, upon which of both were engraven, with the death.

“ After the loss of my little girl deep melancholy. My Lord, who sorrow, was exceedingly kind to me many of his field sports and amusements to devote his time to me. He allowed me to enjoy more of my little boy's company. His last exhortations of our departed daughter were certainly neither unfelt, nor unattended with blessing.

“ The Scriptures now became our studies, and we attended all the ordinances of religion with more than usual fervor. But my Lord's advance in the Christian

in seeing him become the father of a family, among whom I might perhaps behold another Lucy. These prospects insensibly drew me from my religious thoughts; thus making the loss of many other earthly comforts necessary to the admission of the Saviour into my ungrateful heart.


"My son, as he grew older, became more decidedly pious, as did also my Lord as he advanced in years. And now, old as I am, I remember with a delight which makes me sometimes break out into hymns of praise and thanksgiving, how sweetly these two were accustomed to commune together on heavenly subjects, and how their religious principles were evidenced by their circumspect conduct. Still however my heart remained in a state of great hardness. Sometimes indeed I had strong convictions; but, as I before observed, the world so blinded my eyes, as to render further and greater privations necessary to my eternal good.

"These salutary afflictions, though long delayed, at length overtook me. I first lost my Lord. His death was sudden, but attended with such circumstances as an humble Christian may reflect upon with satisfaction. And my son had hardly entered upon his estates and titles, when he was called away from those empty possessions to an inheritance which fadeth not away.

"With him went all my high hopes, together with all those prospects of worldly happiness which I had so long entertained; so that out of all our immense possessions, this estate only re-

with the choicest luxuries of life, had I been imposed to require them.

“ Upon the death of my son, I immediately retired to this place, where I have now lived five and-thirty years, under a growing conviction, that all my past chastisements were absolutely requisite to subdue my rebellious will, and bring me to God. Yes, there has not been allotted me one correction too much, nor one stroke too heavy. More than this, I have learned to see, that in God's dealings with me he has been peculiarly, most abundantly, most amazingly merciful, yea merciful beyond even his usual mercies. I asked the honours of this world for my husband and my children, and he has given them instead thereof a *inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away.* (1 Peter i. 4.) I asked a *stone* for them, and he gave them *bread*; I asked a *serpent*, and he gave them a *fish.* (*Matt.* vii. 9, 10.) Thus has he done for my husband and my children; nor has he dealt less bountifully with myself, giving me in his house and within his walls a place and a name better than of sons and daughters, even an everlasting name, that shall ne



sufferer. At length Mrs. Teachum, who best knew how to express herself on this occasion, ventured to lay before her Ladyship some of those rich and powerful consolations, which she herself, in somewhat similar circumstances, had drawn from religion.

The Lady Faulconbridge was very sensible of Mrs. Teachum's kindness, and expressed a hope that their acquaintance, thus agreeably commenced, might only terminate with her death; which event, she added, her advanced age led her to suppose must be very near at hand.

Twilight, now fast approaching, reminded Mrs. Teachum that it was time to take her leave: she therefore directed her little companions to prepare themselves for their walk. But the Lady Faulconbridge would not permit them to go until she had presented each of her young visitors with some pretty little specimen of her own needlework, taken from the drawers of one of the Indian cabinets before mentioned. To one she gave an embroidered pincushion; to another, a needle-book; to a third, a little work-bag: in short, every one received some little token of remembrance from the hands of their venerable hostess. And there was not one of the young ladies who did not duly estimate her kindness; while all sincerely rejoiced on hearing that they were invited to repeat their visit in a few weeks.

During their walk home, the subject of their conversation was, of course, wholly supplied by what they had seen and heard; and all the while their young hearts glowed with an ardent desire becoming like the lovely Lady Faulconbridge

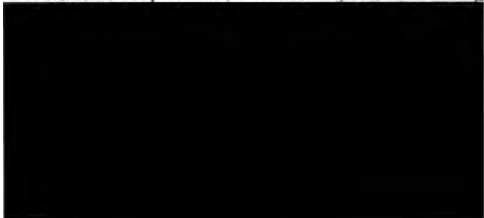
Sunday,

The last Day.

THIS sweet morning was ushered in by the ringing of bells, inviting all persons to prepare for the solemn services of the day. The morning was bright and the whole house was rendered fragrant by the odour of the fresh flowers with which the chimney-piece was adorned.

On assembling in Mrs. Teachum's presence, all were neatly dressed, and every countenance beaming with holy peace and joy, the whole party joyfully joined in the morning song of praise, led by their governess.

After having attended divine service twice, the little party met in the evening, as usual, in Mrs. Teachum's parlour, where they drank tea together.



namely, their freedom from selfishness. "In neither of these children," said Mrs. Teachum, "was there the smallest desire of being brought forward into notice, or of indulging their own appetites and passions: the comfort and happiness both of their parents and their guardians was what they earnestly and continually sought to secure; and such was the sincerity of their love for them, that death itself could not destroy it." She then proceeded to observe, that these dear children were by nature such as others; but that being renewed by the Holy Spirit of God, they had become new creatures: upon which she again took occasion to enforce the necessity of seeking assistance from the Holy Spirit, in order to do well. She thence went on to remark, that whatever excellence may appear in any human character, it can be but as a faint shadow of *that*, of which the dear Saviour's character was the substance; exhorting them therefore daily to take their Lord's conduct, when on earth, as the only perfect ensample of a holy life. And here she set before them his wonderful humility, his compassion, his patience, his gentleness, his entire freedom from every selfish feeling, his contempt of earthly glory, his purity, and his invincible fortitude. After dwelling for some time upon these topics, she earnestly and affectionately entreated the little company, that they would endeavour in all things to adorn the Gospel of God their Saviour; concluding her address in the following words: "My beloved children, though our house is set in a fragrant garden, though it is spacious, and airy, and possessed of every desirable convenience: though all our earthly wants

friends : notwithstanding all these advantages, if we live estranged from Christ, and set up *Self* as our idol, we must needs be miserable—while, on the other hand, a sense of the divine favour is of itself sufficient to counterbalance the loss of every worldly accommodation and comfort, as was exemplified in the case of Daniel, who found peace even in the lion's den, because his God was with him there."

FINIS.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THIS little volume was published before the middle of the last century, and is said to have been written by a sister of the celebrated Fielding.

It is remarkable as having been one of the first books of the kind prepared purposely for children : and in this view it may, perhaps, be found not uninteresting to the present generation of children, since it not only contains an exact and lively picture of their grandmothers and great-grandmothers, but was probably the favourite companion of their youthful days.

The editor was induced to undertake the revisal of this work by a parent, who is now no more. It was indeed one of the last tasks allotted her by that dear parent ; and on this account she has been prevailed upon to complete it, although, on a close perusal, s

introduced into the original work ; and not unlikely that such compositions at that period, one of the chief amusements of the infant mind, a single tale of description is admitted into the present. But since fanciful productions of this kind never be rendered generally useful, it has been thought proper to suppress them, and substituting in their place such appropriate relations as seemed more likely to conduce to juvenile edification.

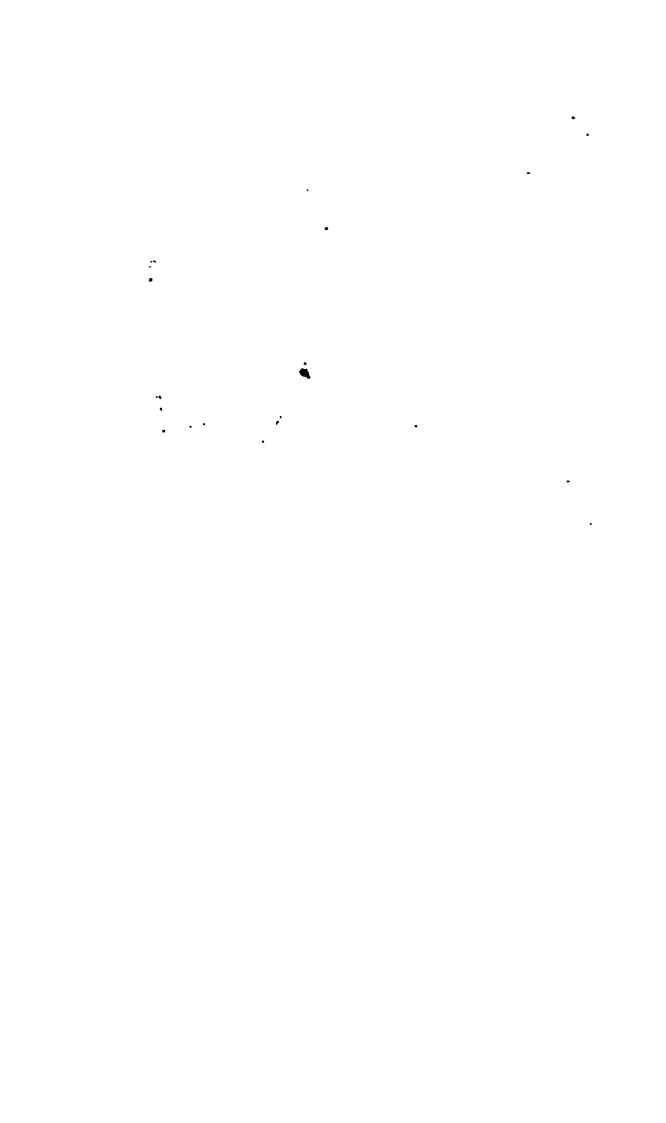
In the body of the work fewer alterations have been taken. There the original is preserved nearly throughout ; while

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